

Barrow, Alaska,
August 21, 1925.

Mr. A. J. Montgomery,
Board of National Missions.

Dear friend:

Three days after the "Boxer" left Barrow the wind began to blow from the Southwest and by last night a big storm was on. It drove the wreck of the "Arctic" nearer to the beach and smashed up the hull, took away all but one mast and scattered the contents of the hold along the beach. One Eskimo girl found a packing case with some new chairs in it. A man found a keg of butter and another a barrel of pork. There were kerosene oil cans and many other things and all these will be much appreciated by natives.

The tide was coming in and the storm increasing. At about half past eight in the evening an Eskimo named Bud came running to the mission and said that the sea was coming in fast -- it was reaching the coal and would wash it into the sea. He was off in a moment and evidently spread the alarm to the village folks.

We hurried down to the beach and sure enough the coal was in imminent danger. We called no one to move the coal but the men, women and children came from their houses, came from all directions and reached the scene about as soon as we did. It was raining hard with spells of snow and hail along with driving storms of sharp, cutting sand, which you know here is mostly pebbles. The storm clouds were dark and between the same and the hail, wind and sand, it became quite dusky.

There were three piles of coal in danger, the mission coal, that of the reindeer station and that for the school, but the whole village of Eskimo, as it were, went for the Mission coal first. How they worked. Men and boys took the big sacks on their backs and staggered to the grass line, keeping up the pace with seemingly tireless efforts. Girls, boys and women tugged at bags and dragged them to the shore pile. Women with babies on their backs, how they pulled coal. It seemed as if those little tiny heads pecking over their shoulders would be blown off. I could not pack coal on my back, one load would have well nigh broke it and given me the lumbago for a week, if I could have stood up under it, but those men and boys, those women worked incessantly. I had to laugh to see those folks packing the big sacks of coal on their backs while I dragged away at sacks along with the women -- think of me pulling on sacks of coal and my running mate a woman and part of the time with a woman who had a baby on her back. A big wave would rush against the pile of coal. All the Eskimo would swarm at that point like bees and go at the pile -- "Ah ka ah ka" and a back would bend, a big sack of coal in a jiffy would go on it and another back slip into its place.

It was an exciting scene -- folks hustling here and there with no leader, no order but knowing just what needed to be done and doing it. Small children rushing about, and I saw children dragging little 2 1/2 year olds about in the crowd. Exhausted, they would fall down in the sand for a little while and then jump up and go at it again.

Some women, who like the ones who carried the heavy tins of cement, the big beams, the large gunnies of flour, and were weak to scrub the next day -- those weak ones, were at the edge of the surf and as fast as the bottom bag was taken up, they were on their knees, clawing the sand, scraping up the last piece of coal and this they put with the rest. I saw women with babies on their backs -- and a woman with clubbed feet -- on their knees clawing the sand for coal and filling their parkies and their dresses. All through the storm, every one laughing -- but working.

Could the record be beaten in the states? They fought with the sea and they conquered. Not one sack was lost and in the space of one hour and three quarters they had packed 100 tons of coal thru deep shifting sand to grass a distance of 75 feet and more.

It was half past ten when they finished the mission coal -- they were soaked to their skins, by the driving rain, and black indeed with coal dust -- how their backs must have ached -- but with a Ka Ka Ga -- and a laugh and a shout, they rushed to the big heap of school coal, which the sea was licking and when I started for the house they were packing that beyond the danger line even as they did for the mission.

And after that they finished putting the coal for the reindeer station to a place of safety. It must have been midnight when that coal was done -- there was no midnight tea nor lunch for them -- too much excitement on -- for the news had come that the big four masted ship the "Arctic" was blowing ashore and breaking up, and off they went down the beach line for five miles all night long and all this day have they been patrolling the beach rescuing all kinds of food stuffs and things from the wreck.

One man and wife are not among their number -- Andy, his wife and eight dogs have been sledging coal to the mission all day. The storm was one of the worst for years. It blew down the weather bureau box stand and did some other stunts. It is still raging.

Now who will say the Eskimo are lazy? Some of them patrolled back and forth all night lost the sea reach the coal even to the place where it had been stacked.

All that 100 tons of coal will be dragged on sleds by dogs -- on bare ground. We had hoped for a little snow. You remember how the women packed big sacks of coal on their backs. Well when they haul coal to the mission they don't do that, but while the men drive the dog team, holding the load to its course, and pushing, their women, daughters or friends, are harnessed in with the dogs and pull with them.

We sure did feel thankful to the village folks for their interest in the mission and their willingness and readiness to save the coal. Could such spirit and effort be equalled in the states? I think not, at least not so many women would attack the coal pile and be laughing, happy and ready for more of the same work after two hours of it.

The other day I was cleaning out the old shack where Dr. Groist lived and I hired three small boys to shovel up the coal in the bin, sack it and to tie up sacks outside of the house, to pick up the loose coal, put it in sacks, and to empty any coal from rotten sacks into whole ones. I did not watch them but the coal was all tied up, put in one place and on the top was a tomato can three fourths full of coal which they had picked up and had over beyond what their sacks would hold. I said, well done, and when I gazed on that tomato can -- well it touched my gizzard.

Those boys had the spirit of their parents when it came to honest work and effort with the interest of the mission at heart.

The experience in the gale with the coal only proved the more that a motor tractor such as they have at Point Hope, is the thing we need. That coal would have been in shortly after it had been landed. It will cost a hundred and more dollars beyond the cost of the usual hauling to the mission -- and yet the loss of 100 tons of coal would have been a calamity indeed. The tractor would pay for itself in a short time, expedite labor and be a saving proposition as well.

Trust these few notes may be in order.

Respectfully,

A. W. NEWHALL. M. D.

Work in the Arctics

— Barrow Mission. —

Quarterly report of Dr. A. W. Newhall

No. 3

Note: This report was mailed from Barrow March 2, 1926, via dog team and reached New York May 26th. Dr. A. W. Newhall is in charge of the mission with its three churches and hospital. His summary, on the last page, with its telling recital of the changes effected by the gospel is very interesting.

Barrow, Alaska.

Dear friends:

My last notes wound up about Thanksgiving. Well the Thanksgiving day services were held in the church at ten o'clock in the morning and all the Eskimo in the village were there. That is the way they go to church. Even come the mothers with their week-old babies slung on their backs. The young, the old, the lame, the blind - every one who is able to get out of the house goes to church. If they cannot see the way some one will lead them.

The Eskimo have reason to thank God for his goodness to them during the past year. 18 whales gave food for the people, meat for the dogs and enough fuel to last all the cold, long winter thru. Plenty of seal, walrus, polar bear, and a big catch of foxes. Hundreds of frozen ducks on some roofs gave evidence that winged fowl were not lacking. A hungry year means that many dogs will starve and the people suffer much hardship. The people did thank God for his goodness to them. They were fervent in prayer and joyful in songs of praise. At the close of the service the missionary was asked if they might have a feast in the church in the afternoon as was their wont at Thanksgiving. Christmas and Easter time and the request was granted. Later the missionary just pecked in to see what they were up to. All the Eskimo were there both young and old. All the chairs had been placed in one big circle and thereon the people did sit, yea, verily, there they did sit for three hours and more. In the middle of the circle on the floor, were large old tin dish pans piled high with blubber.

There was singing of Eskimo hymns; long prayers and in such a low tone that no one could distinguish a word, testimonies or talks by the older men. All seemed happy but to me it was rather a solemn assembly. Now all hands cut off strips of blubber and chewed on it -- Should the strip be too tough chuck it back and let some other fellow have a try at it. Another round of singing, prayer and praise -- then out would come the jack knives and a second attack upon the oily, greasy, fatty tidbits in the dish pans. I suppose the blubber with its black skin and yellowish white glistening fat did look tempting. Once I did try a piece of blubber as large as the head of a pin -- very nice. Enough said. Round after round of singing, prayer and talk until all the folks were filled with blessing and whale. As I looked upon them I said to myself, "Well, if that is what you call having a feast -- go to it and enjoy yourselves."

Christmas is the time of the year and the Point Barrow Eskimo all come down and stay a week. The trappers come in if such a thing is possible. From donations sent to the mission a package is made up for every person in the village, Wainwright, Point Barrow and even to the east. Some 300 bags were filled with pop corn, candy, nuts and peanuts -- these were tied with Christmas ribbons and sealed with stickers of Santa Claus -- they gave color to the pile of presents and were much enjoyed by those who received them.

The church was gaily decorated with festoons of green and red with many red balls hung here and there. Blanks from the ice bench made a platform some 24 feet long and at either end was a Christmas tree all resplendent with tinsel little dolls and ornaments. Indestructible trees and so much better than a post with holes in it and sticks put in the holes, but for years such was considered a fine thing. There were lots of presents piled up at either end of the room, snow shoes, sinews, skins of ermine, reindeer, fawn, polar bears, mukluks, soles, ivory ornaments; small bags filled with sugar, salt or shot; guns; pots; pans, etc.

The presents were given out at the close of the exercises and it took more than an hour for all the aks, and uks and ooks were there. The Powyuraks; the Tateos; the Soosuks; the Papoguts; the Ahmagoaks; the Segvannas and all the rest, filling even the galleries.

The program was interesting and was rendered mostly in English. Two anthems by Mrs. Carrie F. Adams were sung by the audience. "Awake Psalter" "Harp", "Come Ye that love the Lord".

One of the exercises consisted of 14 paper stars in white each with a letter and the whole forming the words Merry Christmas. Boys spoke pieces, waved the stars over their heads and then pinned them on the wall. One exercise introduced the shepherds and the wise men. Some men sang a chorus

"There'd Room in God's love for you."

The children did real well in speaking the English for some of our letters bother them. One boy who had not been to school for long recited a part of the piece, "Twas the Night before Christmas." He knew his piece and spoke up well but the rendition made no smile; -----

And den in the dwinkling I heard on the roof,
The brancing and bawing of each little hoof.
As I true in mybhead and was durning around,
Down the jimney Saint Nicholas came with a bound.
He was drest all in furs from his head to his foots,
And his cloth was all darnished with asses and soots.
A bundle of doughies he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a badlar just open his back.
And his eyes how they dwinkled - his dimples how marry,
His jocks ere like roses - his nose like a jerry.
His drule little mouth was drawn up like a bowl,
The beer of his jin was as white as the snow.
The stump of his bipe he hold fast in his deeth,
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.
He had a broad face and a little round billy,
That jook when he laff like a ball full of jilly.

When the program was most over, Sek-va-O-pung-uk or Joe the mail carrier as we call him, rushed over to the hospital and asked Mrs. Newhall to fix him up as Santa Claus and to be sure and make him a "big billy." My fur parkie was his coat, a scarf the belt; a sofa pillow stuffed in before made a "great big billy" and Jpe grinned with satisfaction for to him that "billy" seemed the all important part of the rig. A red cap and pointed at the top; a mask with whiskers of cotton; his pack my brown khaki shirt with a sofa pillow stuffed in it and a few toys. A jangle of bells and he was off across the frozen snow and with a bound he bounced into the church, talking English and Eskimo, in the same sentences -- that made no difference the children were wild with delight.

Christmas exercises were held at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and it was pitch dark - the flash lights looked like so many twinkling stars as the people found their way to the church. By 4 o'clock it was just glorious out of doors for the moon was shining brightly and it cast its golden mellow light upon the snow cover the tundra and how the snow did glisten and shine. There was no wind and it was cold but then one can stand a low temperature if there is no wind.

The Eskimo understand the true meaning of Christmas - Jesus said He came into the world to save the lost. His name was called Jesus for he would save his people from their sin. He came into the world to make people good and to bring us light eternal life. The Eskimo understand this and Christmas is to them more than the Babe of Bethlehem -- it means the coming of the Savior to the world.

The next event of importance is the return of the sun which will take place in about a week. We were pleasantly surprised to find that the real dark days only lasted two months - that is long enough to be a groping about with lantern and lamp. Wash days the clothes are hung up in the attic about noon and one must carry a light to see the way and even to find the lines.

On the dog sled trip Sunday afternoons it does seem strange to have the moon a shining but often it is dark - the Eskimo can find their way in the dark and out on the boundless tundra but if necessity demands it they will leave the matter to the dogs and they will take them home.

But now to return to Christmas at the hospital for it was a very pleasant occasion. The long hall was festooned in red and green by some Eskimo children and the Christmas tree did look fine with its trimmings. At its base were presents for the household including the patients. Our gifts were:--

<u>Mrs. Newhall</u>	cotton material for 3 dresses	embroidered apron
box candy	towels	sofa pillow cover
fur mittens	deer legs	ermine
<u>Warren Blake Newhall</u>	baby basket	rattle
petticoat	fawn skins	doll
<u>A. W. Newhall</u>	kodak pictures	cross word puzzle book
Jos. Lincoln book	towel	talcum
Oogrook	spear	ogrook soles
		fur mittens
		candy

The folks at Barrow, from the states, comprise the three school teachers, (one man, his wife and her sister,) over at the whaling station two men and a woman; at the hospital, Miss Mueller, head nurse; Miss Dannon nurse; Mrs. Newhall the baby and the doctor. It is the custom for these people to meet socially at Thanksgiving day, Christmas and New Year's and have a dinner, each set of folks providing the dinner in turn. At the hospital the dinner was on New Year's day. The table did look fine with its fixings and especially with the tiny sparkling Christmas tree in the center, and at its base fluffy cotton, from underneath which radiated narrow red ribbons which led to each place. A pull on the ribbons and out came a favor for each one, tiny dogs, cats, an auto, an ivory fan, etc. Large candles in glass candle sticks shed a subdued glow over the scene.

MENU

<p>Corn Soup</p> <p>Chicken Salad</p> <p>Roast Goose</p> <p>Boiled Potatoes (once)</p> <p>Water melon rind pickled</p> <p>Pumpkin pie</p> <p>Coffee</p> <p>Candy</p>	<p>Gravy</p> <p>Boiled Onions</p> <p>olives</p> <p>Cake</p>	<p>Fruit Cocktail</p> <p>Crackers</p> <p>Cheese wafers</p> <p>Dressing</p> <p>Fried Parsnips</p> <p>Sweet pickles</p> <p>Mince pie</p> <p>Vanilla Ice Cream</p> <p>Assorted nuts.</p>
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That was not bad for a northern country - a land of tin cans. But as the little boy said, "We don't get that feed every day."

Now to the rising of the sun again. It is surely coming because this morning at the place where it will appear was a glorious bank of light.

Its base rested on the surface of the snow covered tundra at the horizon and it seemed like a big bonfire. In form it was something like this.

The colors were deep red and pink with the flashing upward every few minutes. From side to side played rays of light, pale green, deep blue and other colors of the rainbow. This

was caused by the reflection of the sun's rays upon the ice and snow. It lasted for more than an hour. This means that the sun is almost ready to rise and all the village will be glad to see it. Just now the moon shines brightly all day as well as night but soon it will fade away in the presence of the greater light. I am glad for the return of the sun for there is another dog sled trip due 180 miles and it is so much pleasanter to be traveling along by daylight than to be poking along in the dark. With the sun comes the very low temperatures - even tho the warm rays may honey comb our ice pile - yet all else practically will be frozen up.

The sun returned on the 26th of January but we have seen its face twice up to Feb. 7. It was in the morning about half past nine when there was a glorious glow of the brightest red where the sun was going to rise and at 9:45 the tip rim showed and at 9:55 the great round golden ball of dazzling light was resting on the surface of the snow covered tundra. At about 11:30 it had sunk to rest. About that time a blizzard raged for three days and it has been cloudy since. The next excitement was getting a crazy man on a sled and starting him off on a 800 mile ride by dog sled. A large built Eskimo from the east and it is very rare for an Eskimo to be insane. He did not want to go but the 12 dogs did and the last I saw of them they were waving their tails as they dashed over the tundra.

The next excitement the coming of the mail and as it was over due a few days we were all anxious. It was about four in the afternoon last Wednesday and so dark one could not see a short distance in front of our house but suddenly down by the beach there was the yelping and howling of dogs - 15 of them - and the shouting of men and the 200 and more dogs in the village were giving them a chorus welcome. Malemute dogs do not bark - they just put their noses in the air and let out long, melancholy, agonizing, wails.

These doggies bring the outer world to us. Some wrote this mail that of course we had a radio - of course not - not even wireless on the boats this far north gives much satisfaction. One inscription on a package made me smile. It was written on the side in ink. PLEASE RUSH FIRST DOG. I suppose that meant rush the leading dog of the sled for if he does not rush no other dog will. He sets the pace.

Now there are some things here encouraging about the work and it is well for us to count our blessings "lest we forget."

Every Eskimo in the village attends every service as a rule.

Every one in the audience sings or tries to, thus making a joyful noise.

Every man, young or old, will pray publicly and consider it a privilege.

Every Eskimo in the place over 14 is a member of the church.

Every person under 14 will join as soon as they think they can.

Every S.S. teacher attends every training class weekly as a rule.

Every man is willing to do janitor work at church when requested by the Eskimo deacons. All Eskimo as a whole are honest and will not lie - few exceptions.

There are no swear words in the Eskimo language.

In these northern regions none of the Eskimo drink booze, desire to, or make it.

The Eskimo are not argumentative nor quarrelsome.

Can your church or community give any better record?

It must be remembered that 34 years ago or so these people were untouched by the gospel and were heathens in their beliefs and practices. Even the traders say the coming of the missionary drove out booze, for in those days all the Eskimo were given to drunkenness and brawling with the sins that follow in the wake of such a way of doing. It was the power of the gospel that brought the change and it will always transform lives if folks will give it a chance. Now do not think that those Eskimo are angels - they are far from it and have many faults and failings, some of them of their own making and others from imitating folks who ought to

have set a better example. But why tell all of these to you - maybe we can help them."

The very old people yet are superstitious and do tell stories that scare the younger folks. Have you ever heard of those little men out on the tundra -- look out ----- but there.

Really I think these people have not done so bad with their short period of religious training, education, etc. Most of them do not speak English even now. A few young people between 16 and 30 talk English but practically none of the children do.

Soon comes the whaling and the nelly-go-tuck and so I see some material ahead for another spiel.

Work in the Arctic

-Barrow Mission-

From the quarterly report of Dr. A. W. Newhall - #4.

Note: The entire reading world was thrilled some months ago with the daily press accounts of the airships flying to and from Barrow. Dr. Newhall gives an intimate account of the effect on the minds of the Eskimo people of the arrival of the air ship.

The Coming of the Airships to Barrow, Alaska.

The first of February word had been received by dog mail that an airship would be in the village by the middle of the month and as such a craft had never been so far north, its coming was looked forward to with considerable interest. Some folks traveled up the coast 90 and more miles by dog sled to witness the sight, staid a week and went home disappointed. Weeks slipped by and we all gave up the idea that it was really coming at all.

The month of March may not come in like a lamb but it surely went out like a lion, with a high wind, a cold northeaster and snow swirling about in all directions. It was Wednesday the 31st and one o'clock in the afternoon. An Eskimo woman named Ar-ga-na had just called at the office for medicine and was on her way home suddenly there was a big whirring noise and all "we uns" at the hospital shouted "AIRSHIP" and ran for the windows and the doors. Sure enough the air ship was there and soaring high above the lagoon. The doctor ran out on the piazza and began to go down the stairs, when Argana came a running full speed ahead, wild eyed and excited up the stairs and right into the arms of the doctor and flinging her arms about his neck, began to jabber in Eskimo, pointed upward and then beat her breast over the heart. The Eskimo came running from all directions to see the sight, I mean the air ship, three times it circled over the village each round getting lower, the pilot looking for a level place on which to land. Whether Argana thot it a big bird or a flying demon I know not but she surely looked to the missionary for protection. More than one Eskimo was scared. One old woman had hobbled on crutches for a long time but when she saw her first airship, she threw down the crutches and ran for her life. As the air plane swung low over the whaling station, an old woman threw up her hands, gave a yell and crawled under an ice bench. A man who had been many years in these regions and wanted to get a picture of the plane went out on the lagoon, set up his tripod, went behind it, bent over to get the camera in focus. He said he thought the plane would touch the snow and then stop immediately, but it came down and scooted right for him and he grabbed his camera and ran for his life.

One little Eskimo boy said, "Airship, he run fast. Eskimo dogs run like molasses

An excited crowd gathered about the airship and we were surprised to receive two letters. It seemed many children from a home had written but the letters had been put in a bag of native cranberries addressed to a young man and they were shelved at the whaling station until called for.

The Detroit Arctic Expedition was sending two planes to Barrow in order that a flight be made across the unknown polar sea to Spitzbergen and also in the hope that land might be discovered and the same be claimed for the United States. Some people think there is land in the unknown region for they say that in the spring the ducks and geese fly north of Point Barrow and return in the fall with their young.

The Commander, Capt. G. H. Wilkins, is an able airman and also an explorer of some experience having been with the Shackleton expedition to the south pole. Ben Eisen was the pilot and the run was made from Fairbanks, to Barrow, a distance of some 600 miles as the crow flies, in 5-1/2 hours but this did include a digression into the interior of 50 miles and out to sea for 100 miles in the attempt to locate this place.

The first night the small pipes froze up and it was some task to thaw them out and then a wooden frame was set up and covered with canvass, a kitchen range being installed and day and night blubber was burned to keep the internals of the airship warm.

It had been expected that plenty of high grade gasoline was at Barrow, the same having been left here by Amundsen but it had all been sold. The airships could not run without gas and so several trips were planned to get gasoline by

airplane from Fairbanks but the experiment was a failure as not enough could be carried above what the plane consumed to make it pay. On its first return to Fairbanks the plane hopped off on Easter morning and why ring the church bell when there was so much excitement on for many of us had never seen an airship take to flight. The bell was rung after it departed. The ice covered roofs of the igloos and the frozen summits of the high snow drifts made fine grand stands. The seats were rather chilly but all were free. Some of them were crowded with men, women and children. "The "Alaska" seemed anxious to fly for it ran along for a short distance, wiggle waggle with its tail and went up like a bird. "Yukie", the dog, chased it for a time and then gave up the game. It was surely fine to send letters to the children, the home folks and friends. On the second trip from Fairbanks, a man who keeps a hot house there sent us some lettuce and radishes and addressed the package, FOR THE MISSIONARIES. That was indeed very kind and thoughtful. The greens did taste good. (When I go to the states I am going to dissipate on the eating line and have my fill of lettuce and cucumbers with "Nothing" on them but vinegar and sugar.†

One morning the nose of the plane was covered as usual with the canvas and the blubber fire was a going when along came a man who thot the fire was a going too briskly, so he moved the stove away from the plane a little. A few minutes after a man came along and thot the fire was not heating the plane enough so he moved the stove a little nearer the plane and just then the blubber flared up and flames shot forth and in a jiffy the canvas was a fire and burned up, one of the propellers burning. It was a wonder that with so much gasoline near at hand that the whole machine did not go up in one big explosion. A day or so later the "Alaska" hopped off but the scorched propeller split and the plane returned flying one sided but it made safe landing on the lagoon. Did you ever hear of the bird with a broken wing, - well, the "Alaska" was taking the air when a wheel hit a hole in the ground, the nose dipped and a wing struck the ground and was smashed and our "good friend" will fly no more. The folks from the city came out and stripped all the veneer from the wing, cut it into cards and mailed them as souvenirs.

An amusing incident happened at Fairbanks. It seems an early start for Barrow was planned so in the evening "Ben" put his sleeping bag in the little room in the tail of the plane and in it a few purchases. Newspaper men were anxious to get all the news and some of them even wished to get to Barrow. One reporter, a young woman, was stopping at the hotel. She bought some sandwiches and put them in a paper bag and at 1 A.M. fearing that the night clerk might question her early departure, she slid down a rope from the second story window, went to the aviation field, climbed aboard the plane, went into the little room and crawled into the sleeping bag. Later on the airmen came and Ben thought he would just take a look and see if his bag was all right so he entered the little room, took a squint and thought the bag moved a little. Thinking it might be a dog that crawled in, he poked the bag here and there with his hand but there was not a move. As he bent over to get thru the door the top of the bag caught on the sill and he kicked it back with his foot and as he did so he thought the moved again just a little. "Well, after all, I do believe a dog has crawled into the bag - guess I will take a look and see." He opened the top of the bag and beheld the frousy head of a maiden fair who said nothing but just smiled sweetly upon him. The young lady did not offer to get out of the bag but looked with such pleading eyes hoping to melt the heart of the pilot and be allowed to go along. "Hurry up there, why are you keeping the plane waiting?" Shouted the captain. "Come in here, Captain, and see what I have to show you" replied Ben. The commander entered the airship, looked in the little room and beheld the frousy head of the maiden fair sticking out of the top of the bag. He tried to look severe but it was hard work. The young lady looked up into his face with a smile and said, "Say, captain, wont you please take me to Barrow. "We are not running a passenger plane, you will have to get out." The commander

told us about it and said he was sorry she did not get away with it for the episode would have made a fine magazine article. When it was found that gasoline was not to be had at Barrow, an attempt was made to freight some in by tractors and five sleds with five men in charge, but the sleds were not made for such heavy loads and the runners cut into the snow, and the tractors would not take hold in the deep flaky sand. As they made 90 miles in 19 days the attempt was given up. Plans were made to send in several thousand of gallons of gasoline by boat this summer for future use in case this venture does not go through. It was decided to send in a wireless set weighing over 600 lbs. and five men and 65 dogs were put on the trail. Of course, dog feed had to be carried, also grub for the men and some luggage. Aleck Smith, sometimes called Sandy was in charge. He is a man 67 years old, with a strong constitution and great endurance powers. He has never touched a drop of liquor in his life and that has been an asset. His father is 107 years old and hale and hearty. Aleck Smith has mustered all over Alaska. He was in the Klondike, down the Yukon to Nome, over in the Kuskokwim and up in Kotzebue, also over in Siberia. Some strange experiences he has had and this trip was to add a few more. The trail led over many valleys along the frozen river beds, across two mountain ranges, one 70 miles of track intense cold, blizzard after blizzard. Some afternoons it would be 50 above zero and in the night 50 below zero. The days work done the men would crawl into their bags and sleep in the open. The mountains are high, the snow deep and the trails steep but out on the wind swept tundra - that was isolation and desolation indeed. Food for men and dogs gave out save a small ration, a cup of coffee and two pancakes in the morning, at noon a cup of coffee and maybe a little rice, at night nothing, as they would sleep and not be hauling on the loads. At one time there were 26 dogs lying on the sleds, fagged out, sick or dying. Most of the way the men were harnessed in with the dogs. In short order only 15 dogs were left and the men staggered along day after day, week after week, some afflicted with snow blindness so that they could not raise the head to the light. They hoped to reach an Eskimo camp on the arctic shore. The wireless was left by the wayside but it had done good service and the airmen knew of their plight and had tried to locate them and drop some sacks filled with food for the dogs and for the men as well. The fog was too dense.

A man had set out from Fairbanks with expedition supplies for Barrow and took the coast line a thousand miles and more. He had a team of 15 dogs but was months on the way. Deep snow, crossing frozen rivers over which was flooding water from the highlands; crossing mountains where the wind had swept all snow away and only bare rocky ground left. Intense cold and a lack of food for man or dogs and very little could be bought. For three days only weak tea and nothing for the dogs. One day they came on to an old partly eaten carcass left by a polar bear and then man and dogs had a feast and "Without any cooking blizzards are the rule and along with other troubles the man had a jumping toothache and he hardly dared to open his mouth because of cold winds but had to shout continually to urge on his dogs. Arriving at Barrow, he made for the hospital and had the offending member removed. A short rest and then with food he was sent to find the other party and returned with Aleck Smith and the wireless man. The other men took fresh dogs and went back to get the wireless set. A wireless was set up here. A pole was raised on the old shack. We furnished a wire clothes line and loaned the delco and the batteries. Soon messages were being sent.

The "Detroiter" took the place of the "Alaska" and is a larger plane having three propellers, one under the nose and one under ~~the~~ either wing. It made the trip in five hours as against 70 days by the dogs, but then it flew high above all obstacles, did not have a heavy load and flew in the good old arctic summer time.

A landing was made on the lagoon but it was not so easy to get off. Runs in the snow were digged again and again but the airship could not take to the air. One engine pulled stronger than the others and this caused the plane to run into the deep snow before it could rise. Every day the men would pack their luggage down to the airship and work all day but the engines would balk or the propellers would not go or else the plane would be piled up in the snow. A try was made on the sandy beach but the plane suddenly turned and made for a small berg and it was stopped just in the nick of time. The tundra is too humpy and the beach too soft and shifting so they took the plane back again to the lagoon. Each night for a month the men returned to their shack, discouraged, down hearted and disgruntled. The village people said that in a day or so the lagoon would be covered with water and in such an event all the eskimo would have to take hold and drag the plane out. Last year the water was on the lagoon two weeks early. The snow was melting and the water was running down to the lagoon. As a last resort, Eskimos dug a run 40 ft. wide and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile long on the lagoon, clearing the ice of all snow. Once more the men packed their luggage to the airship but they did not say good bye for they did not think the plane would get off. Neither did the rest of the folks and each day when the men went down to start it up, a smile would be passed around by the onlookers. The engines were started full tilt, the air ship forged ahead for a very short distance and then it hopped off - and flew up, up, - up until it was lost in a bank of clouds of fog. We heard the roaring of the engines for a time and then all was silent. The next day the lagoon was flooded with water. Later on there would come great cracks in the ice and down would go the water and up would rise the green rotten ice.

The "Detroiter" is not adapted for flight work in Alaska for it is too clumsy and heavy, does not hop off easily. Then it consumes too much gas for the speed. It is said that it has been sold for some \$30,000 and that the "Alaska" will have a new wing and engine and return here next spring for flights.

A wireless said that Amundson had hopped off from Spitzbergen for Alaska and Capt. Wilkind figured that the dirigible would pass Barrow the next evening at six o'clock and it did appear one hour later, a close forecast. It was prayer meeting night and all the congregation was out in front of the church to see the sight. It looked like a huge silver bag and carried the Norwegian, Italian and United States flags.

Along the coast travelled two men, sent north to Barrow by the Amundsen expedition, one of them with a wireless set to flash the news to the states, the other a photographer and newspaper man. They had a long trip and did not make Barrow ere the dirigible passed by but coming along the coast they saw the "Norge" and were much excited. The wireless was lashed to the sled, the newspaper man was so excited that he forgot all about the camera and ran out upon the ice waving his hands. It seems an arrangement had been made whereby the dirigible would sail low with a rope dangling and he was to grasp the rope and climb aboard and thus return to the states. The great airship sailed by and down the coast being forced to land at Teller owing to fog. The news of its passing Barrow was wired from here and as no word was received from Amundsen had it arrived at Nome after 3 days the report was doubted and a wire was sent to Barrow asking who saw the "Norge" go by. Why, all the village saw it.

Amundsen has made several unsuccessful trips and we were indeed glad that this flight was successful. He had done what no man had ever done before in making a flight over the unknown arctic polar sea.

I guess this is all the airship excitement for this year but we have enjoyed it. What a wonderful thing it is that a man can fly - that a machine weighing two tons and more can take to the air. But the birds hold the banner yet in making the hop off with ease, and in speedy flights.

So many times this summer I have thought of that old prophet, who lived long, long ago, some 600 years before the coming of our Savior. He looked as it were down through the ages and saw - what did he see? With wonder he exclaimed, "Who are these that fly as a cloud and as the doves to their windows. It was Isaiah and I wonder if he saw the coming of the airships?

A. W. Newhall, M. D.

BARROW MISSION

A SUMMER IN THE ARCTICS

From the quarterly report of Dr. A. W. Nowhall - #7.

The long winter had at last ended. The sun had returned the middle of January and soon night had become as day. Instead of the midday moon there was the midnight sun with its glorious reflections upon the snow and its beautiful colorings. "Gentle spring and lovely May" had come and gone but to us they seemed only a part of the winter. The intense cold ~~wave~~ gave to milder weather and the snow slowly disappeared under the rays of the warm sun which was shining 24 hours in the day. By the last of July the ice ridge was broken up and in a few days it had drifted north, but with every change to a westerly wind the ice pack came in, staid a while and then drifted west again.

As to the temperature and weather:-

June,	highest	65	once	'	Coldest	24'	Below	freezing	17	days	'Cloudy	28'	Rain	2'	Snow	3	
July	"	66	"	'	"	26'	"	"	12	"	'	"	23'	"	3'	"	4
Aug.	"	69	"	'	"	26'	"	"	14	"	'	"	30'	"	11	"	4

This summer was unusual in that there was little rain but the tundra thawed to a depth of $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. making it like a wet sponge with rivulets running from everywhere into the lagoon. Before even the snow had all disappeared the flowers were in bloom for a short time, buttercups and white ones. The snow birds came in great numbers from the southland and twittered and chirped all day long. No gulls follow the ships here and it is quite evident that they prefer warmer climate. small

There are many animals a little larger than a mouse of greyish brown color which live in the ground or under the sills of igloos or other buildings but they never enter the houses. These lemming have very short tails and furry feet. Out in a sled under some scantling a nest of baby lemming was found and the little ones were placed in the middle of the floor, whereupon the mother lemming came out and carried each one back to the nest as an old mother cat would carry her kittens. There are no flies or mosquitoes here to bother one. In the early summer great flocks of ducks and geese fly northward and go south in August. Five miles north of here at the shooting camp large quantities are taken and cached for winter use.

By the first of July all the whales have passed north and whaling is over because when they return in August their speed is so great that it is rare for an Eskimo to kill one. The oogrook, seal and walrus stay with the ice floes all summer and when the pack is within five miles or so from the shore the hunt begins. The children like the summer time and while a few go hunting, most of them play on the beach or ice all night and sleep the next day. Even the men like to start hunting about midnight, but then it is as light as day. Some times the bellowing of the walrus is heard on the beach and then folks get excited you may be sure. We have seen herds of walrus as far as the eye could reach, tens of thousands of them. The walrus have long tusks and when angry, injured or cornered they will fight to the death. They will attack the hunters, try to swamp the boat and even make an effort to get in it.

An Eskimo young man said to me, "One time I go hunting with my uncle in an oomiuk and we chase a big bull walrus and by and by that big bull walrus, he chase us and put his big tusk right thru that oomiuk and then he get away. The skin boat begin to sink but my uncle jam a piece of fresh meat into the hole and we paddle to a piece of ice and pull up that oomiuk and my uncle sew up that hole with sinew. Then we push the boat into the water and we chase that old bull walrus and we get him."

Avaganna said to me the other day, "We were out hunting walrus yesterday and there were a lot of them in a bunch and they came for us and tried to get in the boat and so we had to run away." Let a walrus hook his tusks over the edge of a boat and it is hard to get him off and it is easy for the walrus to swamp the boat. The whale boats look fine amid the ice floats but it is not all a joy ride. Walrus hunting may be great sport but the Eskimo does not think of that, he is after food for his family and the dogs.

The village landscape is not "poetic", for around each igloo are tethered a lot of dogs and between the igloos oogrook, walrus and seal hides are stretched, being held tight on the ground by short stakes. Heaps of walrus, oogruk and seal meat and blubber are lying about and all is food for men or dogs, and not a very inviting looking "mess". This is the season when they fill the pokes. Now an avatukput or poke is made by turning a seal skin inside out and then sewing all the holes but one with sinew. Of course the fur is on the inside. Here are a few receipts for filling the pokes:

No.1 Mikegak: Chop up whale meat in small pieces
Cut up whale blubber in small chunks
Slice up muktuk or the black skin of the whale.
It makes its own liquid, flavor and smell.

No.2 Ooksrook: Oogrook blubber which becomes an oily liquid.
No.3 Ooksrun: Oogrook blubber and small pieces of oogrook meat.
No.4 Ooksrook: Seal meat, seal blubber and seal oil, The latter is like thick black molasses and it smells awful - good to an Eskimo.

Now get busy, take your choice, fill the poke, sew it up, hang the poke on back side of your house or let it lie on the ground in the sun so that it will get warmed up and get to fermenting.

Like the preserves and jams in your cellar it will come in mighty handy when you have company. However, I am afraid you are finnickier and will take to the jam.

Barrow is a doggy place and there are hundreds of them. In the "good old summer time", we do not hear the singing of birds, neither is the voice of the turtle found in the land but there is the howling, growling, yelping and yapping of dogs all the time and especially about feeding time in the evening. The dogs are tethered just far enough apart so that they will not devour one another - for it only takes a few minutes for dog to finish dog. As you pass by they will leap and tug at their chains in an effort to get at you and one can but hope that the chains will hold them tight. When there is plenty of feed there are plenty of pups and this summer there are pups galore, big pups little pups and middle sized pups and as they run loose they are a veritable nuisance. Last week a funeral procession wended its way from the church out across the tundra and at its head went the "August" missionary but around his legs did jump and yap a pack of pups and so persistent were they that the poor man had to lay aside his dignity and give this pup a kick and that pup a kick and keep calling out, "mush, mush". No one noticed that there was anything to mar the solemnity of the occasion. At the grave yard the pups went off to chase some birds and the brief service ended, as usual the coffin was left upon the ground and the return to the village was made without the companionship of the pups.

The great event of the summer is the coming of a ship. When one is sighted up goes the flag on the schoolhouse, the hospital or the whaling station and there is rivalry to see which flag will go up first.

The "Patterson" arrived the middle of July and anchored out beyond the ice ridge. The captain sent us some fruit, vegetables and candy. We extracted a tooth for one of the crew.

The "Chas. D. Brower" came in and brot the annual mixed mail. We received over 300 letters and there were also papers and packages besides donations for the hospital and mission. Mrs. Newhall and I went aboard and took a look at the rooms where we had spent so many weeks last year when in the ice floes. The U.S.C.G. "Bear" had a hard time making the last 90 miles of the trip to this place. There was much ice to be encountered and it is especially dangerous to pass the sea horse shoals when the ice pack is in. The "Bear" though condemned every year is still the staunchest vessel for the voyage north. At times it could make no headway at all but was held fast in the pack.

In making that last 90 miles of the trip the vessel was ten days bucking the ice. When anchored off Barrow and quite near the shore, the vessel was surrounded by ice and so dense was the fog that only the top of the masts could be seen. This was August nine. A government vessel had made such poor progress that some of the crew laid the source of trouble to the fact that there was a preacher, a black cat and a grave robber on board. This scientist had stopped off here and there along the coast gathered up "Dead men's bones". He did make a visit to the graveyard at Barrow returning with some four or five gunny sacks filled with skulls. But that was not so bad as a few years ago when a scientist carried off 16 boxes filled with bones. One of the sailors who went along with him across the tundra, said that he did not think that it was just the right thing to do. To be sure such liberties could not be taken in the states but the Eskimo are not consulted. The "Boxer" came in with some government officials aboard and we took dinner with them at the whaling station.

The ship "Holmes" arrived with 35 tons of coal and also freight so there was plenty of work for us all. 73 men, women and children packed things to the hospital and at noon they sat down in the long hall and had a dinner of reindeer stew, pilot bread and coffee and were indeed a happy company.

The coal was packed to the tundra line for we did not risk losing any coal by a big tide coming in. Many of the sacks were rotten and it was necessary to sew up sacks, resack coal or pick up what was spilled on the sand. Two women had packed ten gallon boxes of coal oil and kerosene all the morning and in the afternoon they sacked coal, tied up bags or picked up loose coal being busy every moment. One of the women had a baby on her back and it was amusing to see how she kept it quiet even as she worked. All the time she would be patting with one hand or the other one side or the other of that little hump on her back and yet she kept up the pace at the work. One leg would be lifted up and give it a joggle and then the other leg would do likewise while the mother sang in a low voice to the little one. When the coal task was finished in the early evening, down went those two women on their knees and they clawed that sand over well to get what pieces of coal might be left to carry to their homes. One woman had an old piece of gunny sack at one side and she was filling a long black stocking with coal and emptying it into the sack.

The last ship to come in was the "Patterson" but as the ice pack was coming in it remained only long enough to get two polar cubs on board. Mrs. Newhall was anxious to go on board and so we walked down to the beach where an oomiuk was ready to be pushed into the sea, but there were 15 Eskimos in it and two men had brought down to the beach two polars tied to the end of long ropes. Into the sea they went and swam with all their might to make some floats of ice but were brot up with a jerk when they reached the end of their rope. It was with difficulty they were landed in the skin boat and they resisted, pushing their rear ends over the sides of the canoe and ~~ker~~ splash they would go into the water. At last they were tied to the seats. Mrs. Newhall didnot propose to go in that oomiuk with so many men and two live bears. It would upset and that was all there was to it. I left Mrs. Newhall standing on the beach listening to the growling of the bears and beholding the rumpus in the oomiuk. Well, they kept up a bass duet all the way out to the ship but a friend of mine said that it was an unusual sight and a fine one to see that oomiuk rising and falling with the swells, so loaded with Eskimo and with the two polar bears sitting in the bow. On board the ship they had made a large wooden cage and a man was in it giving the last few finishing touches. As he glanced up, lo, a polar bear was being lowered into the cage. That man let out a yell like to

"wake the dead" and the polar bear was jerked up in a hurry while the man lost no time in scrambling out, ~~scrambling~~ first. Once in the cage, a man took a long boat hook and grasped each bear under the collar and cut off the leather with his jack knife. These polar bears will live in the states in some zoo. One of the engineers had crushed his finger and we dressed the wound.

The ice pack was coming fast and there was no time to be lost so they pulled up the anchor and were soon under the way. The ship had scarce been away two hours when the ice pack was crowding the shore. We have wondered if that ship was able to get by the sea horse shoals and into open water some 300 miles south of here.

The latter part of August an epidemic of the flue swept over Barrow. On a Sunday evening there was a large audience and on the following Wednesday not a Mother nor babe, boy or girl, and but few men. Only 25 came to meeting and this would have never happened had the Eskimo not been sick. There was plenty of work to be done at the hospital caring for the bed patients and attending to the out door department. So far there has only been three deaths and they were chronic cases whose end was hastened by the flue. The epidemic was especially hard on the babies and children but the eskimo now come to church so they are feeling better. An Eskimo wrote me a note and said he was so thankful to God that all his family were now well, that he was going to show the Lord that he was thankful by walking to Point Barrow, a distance round trip of 22 miles, and hold service. It is quite impossible to get to Point Barrow in summer by sea owing to the weather and the ice and by land because of lack of snow.

One excitement of the summer was the sledding of the coal from the beach and stowing it in the basement of the hospital. There were 18 sleds with two persons to a sled, one to go on behind and push the other to run ahead of the dogs. It was quite a sight to see so many dogs coming and going with their tails waving like so many plumes. At the noon hour the men sat on the floor in the long hall and enjoyed the usual dinner of reindeer stew, pilot bread and coffee. Out in the front yard tethered to the last load of coal brot in were some 150 dogs and they were a howling and growling, getting tangled up in each others harness. The men will not let the dogs fight, for in a few moments they would tear one another to pieces and once a dog is down all the pack will go for him and make short work of the poor victim. Well, with all the howling and growling and the yelling of the men there was always something doing in the front yard. The Eskimo worked hard, laughed as they worked and took six hours to bring the 85 tons of coal up to the house and stow it in the basement.

Whether it be winter or summer the church work goes on and that is what we are interested in. We enjoy it much. The following is the present schedule or work:

Miss Florence Dakin - Head nurse, caring for the sick and supervising hospital Supt. of primary Sunday School.

Mrs. Newhall Supt. of Sunday School (Doctor in charge when home)
Teaches a S.S. Class of young folks speaking English.
Supt. of Junior Endeavor. Attendance 61. In charge of mothers' club and bathing of babies. Cooking at the hospital.

The Doctor In charge of regular services. Services at Pt. Barrow and Wainwright at times. Organist and choir leader (Choir Herald is used.) A mixed choir of 25 voices and a mens' chorus. S.S. teacher. Leader of the teachers' training class. Attending to sick. Dental work, etc.

The whole audience attends the S.S. and senior endeavor - the latter being wholly in charge of the Eskimo.

Well to sum it all up, we like the work and the people. We have enjoyed the summer days and the sunlight and we will again welcome the sun when it arises the middle of January. We appreciate the interest taken in this work by friends in the states.

L. W. Newhall.

March 9, 1927

As Southeast Alaska is a country of many islands, separated by straits and fiords, the only means of reaching the natives is by boat. The Board of National Missions has two boats in service. First the "A. L. Lindsley" which is a small gas boat. At present it is in charge of Rev. Geo. J. Beck at Hoonah. By means of this boat he has been able to visit the settlements in his section. The second boat is the "Princeton" a motor ship 62 ft. in length powered with a Diesel engine. This boat is designed to cover the whole territory of Southeast Alaska and is in the charge of Capt. David Waggoner, who is a missionary of the Board. The crew consists of a mate, a white man, and a native helper. These three men have manned this boat and it has been in constant service, visiting every one of our mission points regularly. The gospel is carried to every village, camp, cannery and mining project. It is invaluable to our service. In the summer time when the natives are dispersed far and wide to the mines, fishing grounds, and camps, the boats follow them and so winter and summer they do not fail to receive the Gospel. There are in this territory five organized Presbyterian churches for whites, eleven organized churches for the Thlingets, two among the Hydats and one among the Tsimpsians. These churches extend from Metlakatla on the southern boundary as far North as Skagway and as far West as Sitka. This vast expanse of sea and island is the field for these missionary boats. The "Lindsley" is usually assigned to a district, whereas the "Princeton" undertakes to cover the entire Archipelago.

Barrow, Alaska

Please do not forget that this is the one spot upon the earth whereat the Government and the Red Cross do not respond to our frantic "S.O.S." calls. If the missionary finds local prices in trading posts all but beyond him, how think you that the native can purchase other than absolute necessities with his scant earnings? We cannot, or at least should not, and as a matter of fact he does not. The Christmas we give them is all they get. And the limit placed by the Bureau of Education upon the number of deer which can be killed for food is such that the resulting skins are barely sufficient if enough to warmly clothe them in furs. The caribou is practically extinct upon the Arctic coast. Not forty years since they were to be found here in countless thousands, but the careless native killed them in such wholesale quantities that the deer are gone to the far south. The father must be warmly clad that he may travel far afield upon tundra or out upon the frozen sea in search of food, the fox skins, etc., and the children and the mother at home do as they can. Parkas for the little tots can be excellently made from heavy garments old and worn by those in states and ordinarily sold or given to the 'old clothes man,' or handed to the Salvation Army. But we receive so few of them. The father's catch of fox and polar bear skins must be sold or bartered rather for food, for guns and ammunition, and so cannot be used and never are used for garments. Remembering that the necessities of life with this people call insistently for so very much, such as traps, dog harness, chains, rope, hunting knives, stoves of the very cheap pattern, lanterns, lamps, coal oil (at \$1 the gallon) gasoline, canvas for tents, wool blankets, shirts and socks, canvas gloves, mittens and yarns, heavy thread, needles, matches, etc. Our civilization has made many of these things necessary, essential now whereas thirty years since few if any of the above were believed needed. They now prize clocks, watches of cheap variety, mirrors, razors. Then he shaves, the Eskimo ten to one must borrow a small mirror, or go to some neighbor's home wherein a mirror is known to be. The young men cut each others hair and do surprisingly well in imitation of the latest New York styles, while the girls bob their heavy hair, and the one or two very expert barbers within the village do a flourishing business so far as labor is concerned altho they charge the native nothing for service rendered. Khaki or denim trousers have largely replaced the garments formerly made from fur and because of the scarcity of furs. And this is true as well as to the under garments which were formerly made from fawn skins, having been worn with the fur next the skin. In 1921 when I first came to this far North, and organized the "Barrow Better Babies and Mothers' Club" among the Eskimo which organization has become so popular all along the coast, I found but one woman at our first meeting who wore a dress, and but three who wore undergarments. Not a child wore a button-waist or suspenders with which to hold up the trousers which both little boys and girls wear. All wore thongs of walrus hide tightly drawn about pelvic bones as means of holding up pants of heavy reindeer skin. In several cases it was discovered that the iliac (pelvic bones) were deformed, creased, and because at so early age these very small but tightly worn leather straps were worn. After a public clinic and a demonstration of the harm done by this practice, held by Dr. Geist, I had less difficulty in persuading them to adopt the button waist, and now every flour sack is used to good purpose, these waists being made therefrom if no better material presents. Now waists appeal to them as a matter of necessity. Those girls of 1921 are now at the marriageable age and are struggling to dress themselves and their children as we have taught them.

And again, thanks for those boxes! All babies born on this coast to the South-Eastward and to the South-Westward (for we are at the apex,) receive their first

year's supply of clothing from these boxes. We yet have a goodly supply of baby clothes which will carry us for perhaps a year, but we are entirely out of small childrens' garments, those from one to six years of age, such as overalls, pants, waists, suspenders, stockings, underwear.

There has been so very much serious illness within the Hospital this year, many cases of Typhoid, pneumonia, etc., and as I am the sole nurse as yet, I have been out to it to give any care to the mother and babies other than those sick ones within our walls. And our Christmas preparations which require that we prepare bags for near four hundred, are carried on here in the hospital as we can steal a few moments from the bed-sides and from the management of the domestic economy. For weeks we rarely were in bed ere midnight, finding the late hours the only opportunity to get anything at all done. Another year we hope to do all this preparatory Xmas work in the new manse, thus avoiding the noise and mess within the hospital.

Many ask, What do you mostly need in those boxes? The opportunity now presented is appreciated, and we will enumerate a few needs. These are staple, and are always welcome. Flannelette, gingham, khaki, denim, cloth of any sort, new or old, canvas, drill, ticking, sateen, stocking tops (to which the mothers ingeniously sew feet of baby reindeer fur,) or even cheap 'Ten cent store' stockings which would here cost several times the price in those wonderful department shops. Many of these people knit most wonderfully, beautifully, and are in truth artists at it, and had they the yarns either father or mother could and would knit stockings or mitts for themselves or little ones. They can as readily pick up on stocking tops or on an old worn sweater and knit on the needful part. But the yarn is all but prohibitive in price to them. Recently a young father of six children spent a series of nights in the hospital, helping with the care of his three small children who had Typhoid fever, and during that time he knit a splendid pair of gloves for the Doctor, and beautiful mittens for both Miss Bailey and me. His work was all double-knit, with two colors of yarns, and he made various designs, artistic in the extreme. Into his Xmas package I put all the yarn I could spare, and did not forget the packages of a few other good knitters who so need this material. They use medium sized needles. I sent a quantity of brightly colored yarns to a paralytic boy at Point Barrow, twelve miles distant, he is the son of one of the ruling elders, and I sent him a pair of baby booties which come high up over the knee, and he knit me two pairs exactly like the pattern, and two pairs of lovely mittens for children and sent the whole back to me. Some of the boys knit while spending long, dark, cold and lonely winters far inland from the coast, herding reindeer, doing this work of nights in their tents or snow-houses temporarily constructed as they travel with the herds. The occupation proves a blessing to them as it does to the trapper as well, far from family and home for weeks at a time. These boys are remembered at Xmas time, as we can, with yarn, needles, picture books, puzzles.

The white and black bone buttons, the buttons from pearl, so many of which I received, were sorted, strung upon string, and I gave not less than a gallon of these to mothers in their Xmas bags. Needles were scarce and I divided them as best I could. The shortage of thread allowed but one spool to a bag this year. There was little for the fathers this season, but we managed to give to each a pencil, or a bandana handkerchief, and we had to slip them into the bags of the wives, the handkerchiefs, however, being limited to the very old men since there were few of them. A few tablets for pencils were had, but merely enough for the older boys. But the picture books held out to the last child, boys and girls alike. And how they do enjoy them. Xmas cards were in excess. There were just enough tiny dollies for the

little girls who would thank you. But the balls, the tops and the mouth-organs were all too soon exhausted. There were scarcely half-a-dozen painting and drawing books. Anyway, by the time the 6 year boy was reached there seemed little to give him saving our sympathy. Each bag had a pretty picture card tied to the outside. It made them look beautiful even tho the contents were small and limited. Yet the most serious disappointment came to the one who received nothing, and that either through error or because we had exhausted our supply. So far as we can, we have adjusted the mistakes and have since Christmas sent to the forgotten ones bags made up of the rejected stuff, and so in this way we have finally gotten rid of the left-overs. Just 31 bundles of old clothing and piece goods have been given to the most needy families. Jane Ekelana, my very efficient nurse in training, and a lovely young girl of seventeen, made six dresses for old women. Helen, my other efficient assistant, the mother of two babies, who is with us this winter while her husband is far inland trapping, made six shirts for old men, and thus we tried to make the Xmas of the old people practically helpful. All the old people received also a bit of food from the hospital, rice, sugar, tea, dessicated (dried) potatoes, etc. All these elderly folk are dependents.

The hospital is much in need of sheeting, either 2 yds. or 2½ yds. wide, and it may be either ordinary cotton or flannelette. It ought of course be white. I am now using the supply sent up for the new manse and because we were so nearly out that in the great rush of sick people within hospital during the last four months I simply had to resort to our private stock of the manse. And we need more towels, wash cloths or face cloths, night gowns of flannelette for women and children, draw sheeting, rubber sheeting, pill boxes, adhesive tape, new mattresses and mattress covering, and these are but a few of the crying needs of this institution now after ten years service. We need dish cloths, towels, napkins, new curtains throughout the building, those now being used having seen long and arduous service and, believe it or not, they are now hung for the last time. We will use newspapers if necessary, but never again these old curtains. The soft wood floors are wearing where we tread mostly, and we ought to have linoleum, or rubber runners. Bath robes, safety pins, hoods and sweaters are so wanted. And a between-meals cover for our large dining table for the staff's dining room is so wanted. We are now using a pretty one sent for the new manse.

Ida and Helen are paid helpers in the hospital, receiving \$15 per month, while Jane goes to school and helps out of school hours for her room, board and such clothes as I can get for her. So Jane has no money. It was nearing Christmas and we were so busy, not being through with getting out nearly four hundred bags, and Jane and Ida were becoming most anxious as to "Snow shirts" for Xmas, the pretty covering used over their fur garments to shed wind and snow, so showily made from black sateen with bright colored trimmings worn by girls of marriageable age. The girls knew we did not have the material. So Ida took of her wages, a full month's wages, and bought a cheap grade of sateen at \$1 the yard, and made Jane a Christmas present of enough with which to make a "shirt." And so, their money goes. It was all bought, paid for, and the garments made ere we knew anything about it. The second washing will put it out of commission. And then for Sunday wear they will wish for another.

I have tried hard to cover the ground as to our needs, giving you a very intimate 'look in' on our activities, enumerating a very few of our requirements, our wants, our sought-after accomplishments, the much which makes our hearts ache with this people.--with this I trust you will bear, entering sympathetically with me into

into it all. I hope you will find it a little easier to make up your future boxes, sending me the practical things. And we again thank you, one and all, for all you have done which has been so very helpful away up here at the Top of the world. I am not only a 'hustler' and a busy one at that, but it seems that in the words of the West I am also become a 'rustler' as to the where-with-all in my community welfare work. And I wish to depend upon you, good friends, in this very real emergency.

**Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.**

156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

DIVISION OF
GENERAL PROMOTION

DEPARTMENT OF
SPECIFIC WORK

Barrow Mission. Alaska.

It is always a "red letter day" at your Board headquarters when the annual mail from the farthest North mission station in the world arrives. This year it made record time, leaving there on January 1st, the first 600 miles by dog sled, and reaching New York, March 29th. Some of these days mail and people will go by air. Have you thought of what it must mean to the air plane men to find a Christian mission at Barrow? They are discovering generous, warm hearted people, appreciative of the good which has been brought to them by your missionaries. It is hoped that they will contribute nothing, which will counteract the work of the years of splendid service for these Eskimo people.

The following notes are from the report of Dr. A. W. Newhall, in charge of the hospital, church, Sunday school and all other forms of service.

Dear Friends:

Now after five months we know a little more about the topmost part of North America. The coldest weather comes after the middle of January, when the sun returns, though when that event occurs it is for a very short time each day. Just before the sun ceases to rise it stays up but just a little while and on the level with the ground and sets right near where it came up. The moon and sun will both be shining at the same time but the moon does not set, only going about in a circle in the heavens.

It may be there is nothing remarkable about a dog sled trip of some 180 miles except that it was the first time this fellow had taken such a trip and that is my excuse for telling the story.

WHAT DID I WEAR? Stockings of fawn skin with the fur turned in, mukluks of winter reindeer with the fur on the feet turned in, a cotton union suit, woolen shirt, woolen vest, skin pants, winter reindeer pants, knotted skull cap, parkie with hood and the fur inside, parkie with hood and the fur to the outside, a parkie of khaki with hood and border fur of coyote, long wristers, knitted mittens and mittens of polar bear skin. Thus clothed a person is well padded but none too warm for a temperature ranging from zero to 60 and more below.

WHAT DID WE TAKE ALONG FOR FOOD? 100 baking powder biscuits and lots of doughnuts - these do not freeze. A lot of stew cooked, frozen in soup plates and slung in a bag; a lot of beans baked, put in bowls, frozen and slung in a bag; a large roast of reindeer, frozen, sliced, then thrown in a bag; one dozen Campbell soups to be thawed out as needed; coffee; tea; cakes of chocolate; Eagle brand milk as this does not freeze. WHAT UTENSILS WERE CARRIED? A coffee pot; tin spoons, tin cups, knife, can opener, skillet with detachable handle - this for thawing out food; stew pan for melting snow for cooking purposes and to drink, 2 thermos bottles to be filled with hot coffee and soup each morning for the noon lunch when no camp is made.

WHAT WAS THE KIT? An old 10x12 tent of canvas, lantern, axe, Eskimo snow shovel, 2 primus stoves for thawing out food and making coffee, 2 sleeping bags and two winter reindeer skins, a gun.

I was glad there was a gun but it was not for me. A gun is a necessity for often polar bears are wary of men and will run from them; but a hungry bear or a mother

bear with cubs one would not care to meet. Lynx or wild cats once were plentiful hereabout and until a few years ago there were a lot of wolves but for a number of years they have migrated eastward. The report comes that they are coming back and one Eskimo said that a pack of wolves set on his herd and killed 100 deer in one night. This was not too reassuring to a tenderfoot; but in the Lord and in my driver is my trust. My driver was Ned Nu-sa-ginp-na. Never mind the last name, I called him 'Ned'. He was fearless and a good shot. For some years he had carried the mail along the coast 1000 miles and return and was exposed to all kinds of dangers and extremes of cold. One bitter night he crawled into his sleeping bag, awoke in the morning and found his 15 dogs frozen to death.

The sled carried all the junk and some 300 pounds of dog meat. Canvas was pulled over it and lashed down and when the doctor climbed aboard, straddling the load and getting into a most uncomfortable position, he looked like a fat old walrus, a grizzly bear, or a Santa Claus... A short time after we started we found we had neither watch nor lantern, so Ned called to an Eskimo and borrowed both. Without these we might not know whether it was tomorrow or today.

Now do not think that it was smooth going. Not a bit of it. A narrow shelf of ice at the foot of the bluffs and then down from 3 to 6 feet another shelf and below that the slushy rotten shore, extending out into the sea. Along the rounded shelf the dogs did speed, the sled slewing this way and that with the driver riding on the runners. More than once did the sled go over a ledge and more than twice did Santa Claus go sprawling on the ice down below. Whenever a ravine opened to sea, there was a high snow drift across our path. Up it the dogs would scramble and then up it the sled would go, the front end poised in the air for a moment and then down over where the dogs had disappeared. Sometimes it would land right side up and go gliding after the trotting dogs. Where was Santa Claus? He was most anywhere. I rode on that load the first day off and on, but it was more off than on. At one time sharp cliffs had to be rounded and Ned would hold up one side of the sled in order to round the point. On these occasions Santa Claus walked - Safety First!...

At 3:30 each afternoon it was dark so a camp was made and at 3 A.M. we started on. Ned set up the tent and fastened the ropes to large galvanized iron ship nails driven into the frozen beach sand and stones. The flaps were spread out and on them snow shovelled two feet deep, this to hold the tent down and to keep out the wind. The stove was set and snow melted, coffee made and food thawed out, the dogs fed and then those animals curled up and soon were fast asleep in the snow, covered with a soft warm blanket. On the frozen ground was laid the winter skins, fur down. The Eskimo usually have a reason for doing things and this prevents the hide side freezing to the ground and tearing, and it prevents the sleeping bag from slipping. All clothing was removed but the union suit and all garments including the boots were placed for a pillow. Into the sleeping bag I slid and was surprised to find how comfortable and warm it was. All night long the snow drifted and the wind howled. The old tent flapped and I wondered if the mooring would hold until morning. The sea roared just a few feet away.

The second day the course was along the foot of high bluffs for 30 miles. Dogs are interesting animals. The shore ice extended out into the sea and it was like a ploughed field only the furrows were a foot deep and of ice. That would not have been so bad had the dogs kept to the furrows. They do not like to go in a straight line and so every few minutes they would cross over, back and forth. So it was jolt, jolt, all day. One time the leading dog came upon a live duck sitting on the ice and in no time all the dogs were in a tangle trying to get at that duck. Before the driver could get them the five dogs had mauled it.

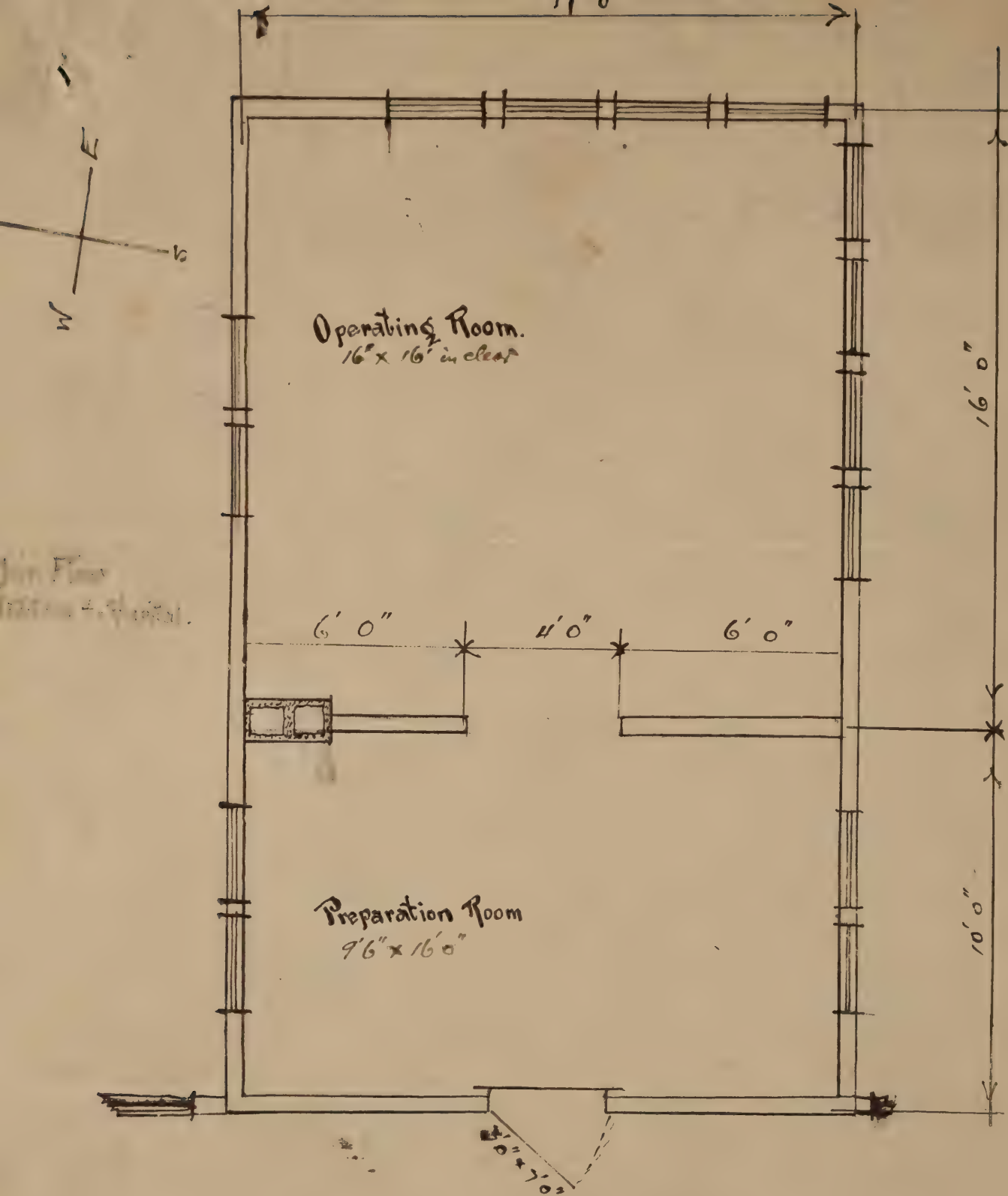
At noon a stop was made for lunch, the dogs were given a piece of frozen dog meat and we stood with our backs to the wind and drank a cup of coffee and one of soup, taking care not to touch the tin cup with our bare fingers. A piece of frozen meat would be put in the mouth and then a swallow of coffee held there until it thawed enough to bite... At six o'clock we found an old igloo and crawled into our sleeping bags to keep warm until 3 A.M. The storm was still howling but we must go on. Our next stop was made at a trading station and all the dogs in the village howled us a welcome. The trader came out and soon we had furs off, a wash, a shave and then a fine dinner of reindeer steak, brown gravy, potatoes and coffee!

The next 4½ days were busy ones. The teeth of all the school children were filled, extracted or cleaned as needed. Clinics were held every day and the sick of the village attended to. Religious services were held and the schoolhouse was crowded, all floor space occupied even to the door, and one had to step over legs to get into the room. The folks were pleased to hear the missionary singing in Eskimo and the teachers amused to hear me ask for an offering. A fine offering was given. It was not money we asked for but dog meat! In the evening we had communion service, some baptisms and another offering. This was taken in a soup plate and included pieces of ivory and ivory buttons, rings, comb, reindeer sinew, walrus teeth, whale blubber, whale bone. These things were converted into money at a native store. The elders had said that only one baby was to be baptized and so the service proceeded but up from the floor at the preacher's feet scrambled a man and woman and stood with their baby and then the folks were asked if there were any more babies and the trader began to call out this one and that until we had quite a circle of babies....

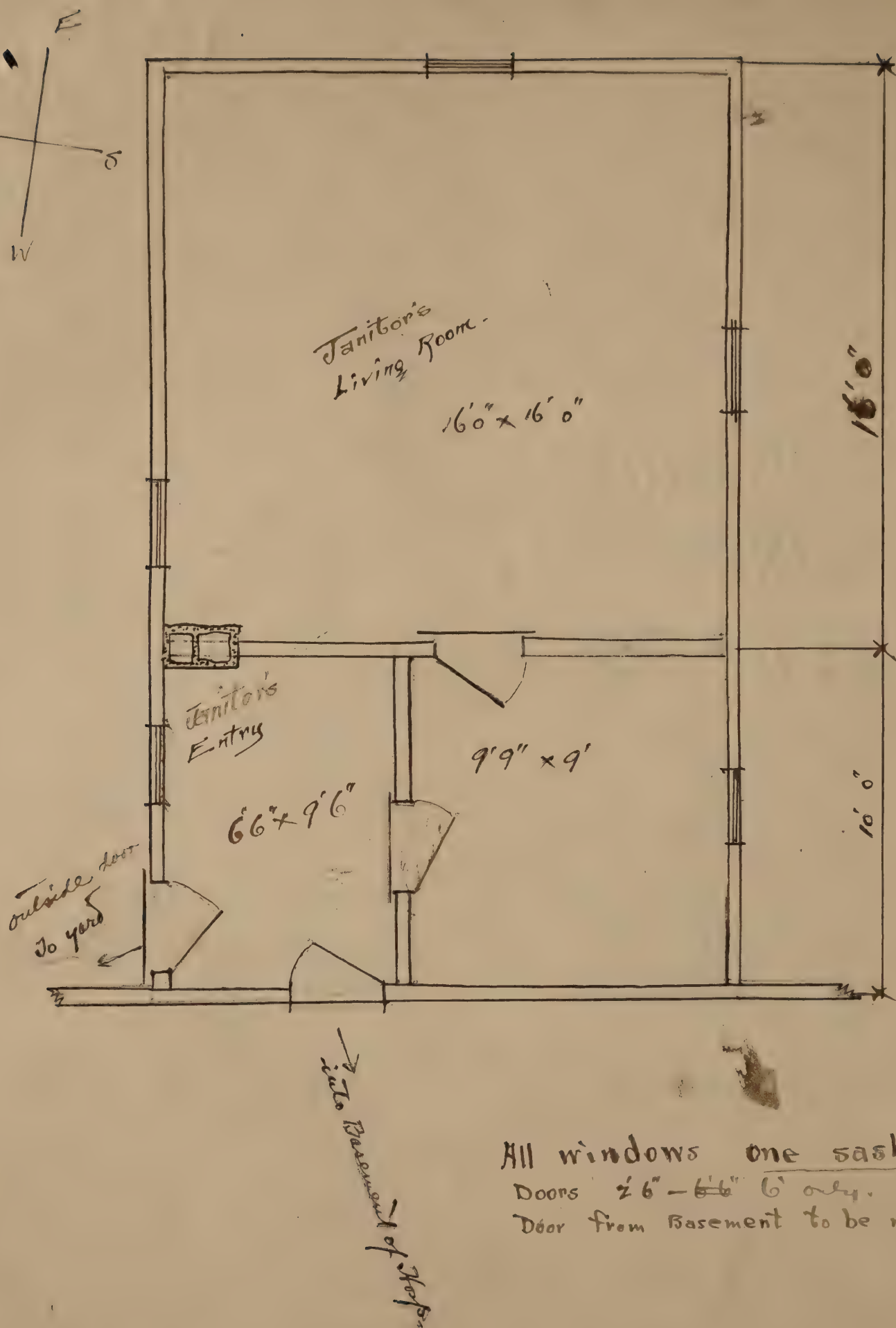
The return trip was over a rough, lumpy road.... At 3 A. M. Ned looked solemn for he had been outside the igloo and said the storm was worse and that if it did not let up we might have to stay there a week. We had only feed for the dogs enough to last one day and we had left our frozen beans and stew behind. At prayers we asked the Lord to give us weather for travelling and in a couple hours it had moderated so we started out... Next day breakfast at 3 A.M. and off again! For a short time on the shore ice, but it was too rough and then back to the tundra and on to Barrow. My, how good those houses did look - the church and the hospital! The workers smiled a welcome and soon we sat down to some coffee, bread, etc. It did seem good to eat something that did not have to be thawed out. After all it may be fine to go on the trail, but there is no place like home. I felt fine for a couple hours and then felt as though I had been pounded all over - and so laid me down for a little nap, not in a sleeping bag, not on a frozen beach or icy floor - and not even with a pup curled about my shining pate....

Our young people especially are a church-going, singing, praying set of folks. It would do you good to hear the Eskimo sing. All of the people of the village attend every service as a rule and are there long before service begins. It pays to work with these people.

This mail will start by dog sled January 1st, 1926.



Main Floor of Proposed Addition to
Presbyterian Hospital of Barrow, Alaska.



All windows one sash, triple glazed.
Doors 2'6" - ~~6'6"~~ 6' only.
Door from Basement to be made here.

Ground Floor of proposed Addition to
Presbyterian Hospital of Barrow, Alaska.
This for Living quarters of Janitor.

REV. HENRY W. GREIST, A. B., M. D.

Fellow American Medical Assn.
Superintendent and Missionary-in-
Charge of the Presbyterian Hospital
and Missions ~ The Dog-Mushing
Doctor-Preacher of a Parish Covering
One Thousand Miles of Arctic Coast.

MRS. HENRY W. GREIST, R. N.

Superintendent of Nurses, Director of
Mothers' and Babies' Welfare Work.



THE FARTHEST NORTH HOSPITAL ...

Point Barrow

THE ESKIMO CHURCHES ...

Nuwuk, Point Barrow

Ootkeavik, Barrow

Olgonik, Wainwright

Kingek, Cape Prince of Wales

"THE NORTHERN CROSS" ...

A unique sheet ~ Issued under difficulties,
every little while ~ Just Over the Ice from
the Pole ~ Printed by Mimeograph ~ Illus-
trated by Eskimo ~ Sent out of the North
by Dogs and Ship as is possible ~ Northern-
most Publication in all the world ~ Protag-
onist of Top-of-the-World Evangelism.

Point Barrow Presbyterian Hospital The Presbyterian Missions of the Arctic

(YUKON PRESBYTERY)

THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.A.

156 Fifth Ave., New York

July 3,

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"The Manse"

Point Barrow, Alaska

Dr. J. M. Somerndike,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York City.

Dear Doctor Somerndike:

Referring to yours of Feb'y 10th. in re letter from the W. E. Beggs Co., and their request for certain information as to the hospital building, floor construction, ceiling, wall, etc., together with sizes of windows, etc. Your letter reached me this week.

Through Mr. Gould

I am writing the Beggs Company ^{even date} in reply to their enquiry. And attach hereto carbon of my reply so that you may have information to attach to and be made a part of floor plan of the hospital. I have in the last fourteen yrs been called upon to make so many floor plans of this building, and have as well sent all blue prints and other information had when I first arrived, to the Board, that in the end it is difficult for me to renew from time to time a layout of facts. It takes many hours to make such floor plan. It is hoped, therefore, that said floor plan, and enclosed information, may be kept on file for ready reference rather than be compelled to ask the information of me afresh when needed. It would seem that the official architect would be able to make up from my pen and ink drawings & blue prints for convenient reference. My drawings are accurately drawn to scale.

At the present moment, having no floor plan of the hospital, ~~floor~~, and being asked for accurate measurements of all windows, I am non-plussed as to how to go at it saving by drawing a complete new floor plan to scale. But I have not the time. I will therefore do the best I can, assuming that he who examines my memo will have my former floor plan at hand for reference.

I am, Sir,

Yours sincerely,

Henry W. Greist
Henry W. Greist, M.D., Sup't.

*Later: I have drawn complete plans of Basement and
Loft, since in my opinion these two floors must have moderate heating
tho' not equally with main floor.*

Kindly return for
B. G. Smith's files

Barrow, Alaska

July 3,
1918
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Mr. Genl. C. Gould,
Member of the Board of Nat'l Missions,
The Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.,
1406, Shenandoah Dr., Seattle, Wash.

My dear Mr. Gould:

I have proposed heating plant for Barrow Hospital, and the request of Messrs. J. E. Hogg & Co., of Seattle, Wash. through Mr. J. E. Hogg, Secretary to the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., of 150 Fifth Ave., New York City, that I prepare data covering walls, ceilings, floors, enclosures, etc., for Messrs. J. E. Hogg & Co.

I call your attention to the floor plans enclosed for Third floor, or upper floor, and to that of Basement or lower floor.

I also would state that the main floor, offers data as follows:

Ceilings - - - - - 8' 6"
Floors, ship-lap, and thin building paper, then J. E. Hogg flooring.
Outside walls: Paper layer, J. E. Hogg flooring painted,
Building paper, thin
Ship-lap, and then --

Studs

Inside wall covering, or covering of inner surface
of outside wall:
Building paper, (over studs),
Ship-lap,
Thin wall board, made from paper, 1/8" thick.

Inner walls, or partitions: Studs covered both sides with bldg paper
then ship-lap,
Over all thin wall-board 1/8" thick.

All windows composed of units: 3' x 4'

Double windows as shown in floor plan now in care
of Messrs. J. E. Hogg & Co., composed of double
units, side by side, separated by narrow partition.

All windows treble glazed, that is, three sash, or three glasses,

Doors, are 3' wide, 7' high

from inside to outside

Gen. C. Gould - 2,
Greist of Point Barrow.
July 3, 1934.
In re Floor Plans etc Barrow Hospital.

I would particularly call the attention of Messrs. H. H. Hodge & Co. to the fact that we have very generally and almost constantly in winter very high winds. And that the temperature rarely goes higher than 20 below zero and that not for long. Often we have temperatures of minus forty, or or 45 F. and very generally sometimes during the winter we have it as cold as 55 below. This low temperature, combined with high winds, makes for very great difficulty as to heating a building properly. This is the reason why pipeless furnaces had in Barrow Hospital for many years are a snare and a delusion, utterly worthless as adequate heaters. It is questioned, also, if hot water outfits will serve since rooms which are not heated are occasionally, would freeze up as to pipes. Careless janitors and other help would almost surely allow pipes to freeze and burst. It is believed locally that the one pipe system for steam would prove the wiser plan, notwithstanding the writer is far from assuming expert knowledge as to any heating system of modern type since he has constantly been within the arctic for fourteen yrs.

In view of all above, it is suggested to Messrs. H. H. Hodge & Co., that if any heating system at all is installed in Barrow Hospital, it would be very well to figure on double requirements, as then fires would not have to be pushed day and night and while account small boilers and inadequate capacity. Barrow Hospital has proved to be a most difficult building to heat. The external walls are improperly insulated, very poorly in fact.

It is desired that heat be supplied Basement, and upper-floor (~~or third floor~~) as well. ^{moderate} Basement and upper floor not necessarily being supplied with the warmth that main floor is to have. But frost, or freezing, is not wanted in either lower floor or basement. Laundry has to be hung on upper floor, and laundry work is all done in Basement. Food stuffs are stored in Basement, and engines of electric light plant must be kept reasonably warm. Much work is done in Garage room in Basement, and heat reasonable in quantity must be had.

I believe this covers all information wanted.

Sincerely,

Henry W. Greist, M.D.,
Superintendent.

Fairbanks, Alaska
May 29, 1935

Dr. W. W. Council
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Counce:

This is a report on my trip to Point Barrow and Wainwright as authorized by you in your wire dated May 6. The two telegrams I sent, one from Point Barrow and one from Fairbanks on my return, gave a detailed description of conditions as I found them.

There were approximately 300 cases of influenza at Point Barrow and 220 cases at Wainwright, Alaska. On May 11, when my wire was sent from Point Barrow, there had been 15 deaths, 14 of which were attributable to influenza. Since then I understand they have had three more deaths which were caused by tuberculosis. There was one death at Wainwright and this an old man of 70 years with a bad heart. The difference between the mortality rate at Wainwright and Barrow may, I think, be easily explained. At Point Barrow, according to information obtained from all the white and many of the native residents, ~~the~~ Doctor Greist did not keep the natives in their igloos, but encouraged them to come to what he called the clinic every day. I understand that in this clinic there might be anywhere from 50 to 80 eskimos with temperatures ranging from 100 to 103 degrees, milling around for several hours waiting for medicine, after which they would return to their igloos. Dr. Greist did not make calls at the igloos until a couple of days before my arrival, when the epidemic was on the decline. Dr. Greist also had the idea that influenza could not be treated successfully without vaccine, and as you know, at the present time vaccine has not been used as a therapeutic agent in the treatment of influenza, but has been used as an immunizing agent and takes about a month to render an individual immune after three injections of vaccine. Whether the good doctor was physically too feeble to make the calls, or whether this was his method of treating the epidemic, I do not know, as the fact that he is almost totally deaf made it very difficult to gather information from him.

At Wainwright, the epidemic was handled in an entirely different manner by Mr. Stowell, the government teacher. He deserves great credit for the good judgment he used. He confined all eskimos with influenza to their igloos and prohibited any visiting back and forth. He administered such simple remedies as aspirin, epsom salts, castor oil, and

WNC

May 29, 1935

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cough medicine, advising the natives to stay in bed until their temperatures were normal and then not to go out for two or three days. The results of this simple treatment you see in the low mortality rate at Wainwright. I think the virulence of the influenza epidemic at Wainwright was equal to that of Point Barrow. The fact that 50 or 80 people with acute influenza and temperatures walked from their igloos to the hospital, standing around for several hours to get medicines, would naturally tend to increase the incidence of bronchial pneumonia. Had they been left alone in their igloos without treatment, I think the results would have been better.

Due to the infirmities of old age and the fact that he is almost entirely deaf, Dr. Greist has outlived his usefulness. I doubt if he could properly care for the simplest surgical emergency. The doctor, no doubt, has done very fine work in the past, but in his present condition he should be removed, not only for his own good, but for the best interests of the entire Arctic coast.

The eskimo are a fine race of people, far superior mentally and physically to our interior Indian. Mr. Charles Brower, who has lived at Point Barrow for 51 years, advises me that between Point Barrow and Demarcation Point, there are some 1200 eskimos. Adding the 250 at Wainwright and the 200 at Point Lay and Point Hope, you have between 1600 and 1700 eskimos tributary to the Point Barrow hospital. The hospital has 12 beds and is moderately well equipped. During three or four of the winter months, as you know, Barrow and the Arctic coast cannot be reached even by airplane. It is hardly just that this fine white and eskimo population of the Arctic coast should have to rely on the services of a doctor who, due to the infirmities of age, is not competent to care for them. The white residents, realizing the situation, are apprehensive when the winter closes in for fear they may become critically ill with no means of transportation to the outside world. What they all want is the establishment of a bureau hospital, with a competent doctor and staff of nurses at Point Barrow. Mr. Charles Brower has written a letter to Governor Troy, in which he gives practically the same facts that I have given, and asks for the establishment of a bureau hospital. Mr. Dougherty, the very able government teacher at Barrow, and Mr. Morgan, the wireless operator, are of the same opinion as Mr. Brower.

There was no food shortage at either Barrow or Wainwright. I personally visited every igloo in Point Barrow and Wainwright and they were all amply supplied with native foods such as

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May 29, 1935

Page 3

reindeer meat, seal, ducks, geese, and whale meat. Mr. Brower advises me that the eskimo is far healthier if he sticks to his native meat diet, than he is when he attempts to eat white man's food. Dr. Greist, as you know, is the Associated Press representative at Point Barrow, and many of the wires he sent to the Associated Press were, what we term in common parlance, "hooley".

Dr. Pepper and Dr. Pettit, from the University of Pennsylvania, were able to visit Kotzebue and Point Lay, where they obtained convalescent serum. Also there they contacted Miss Keaton, the government nurse who accompanied me along with Mrs. Eugene Brown on the trip. I was glad they had the opportunity of meeting Miss Keaton so that they could obtain her version of conditions on the Arctic coast as well as mine, for she is an able and conscientious nurse. These two doctors met the head of the Presbyterian Board of Missions in the East and will make a report to him when they return.

Now, Counce, Mrs. Eugene Brown, the nurse, and myself were absent 14 days on the trip. I paid out of my own pocket bills for board and room, where they were charged, for Mrs. Brown and myself rather than go through the red tape of vouchers in triplicate, etc. I took Mrs. Brown from private nursing in Fairbanks where her compensation is \$7 per day, and feel that she should have the same rate for the 14 days of the trip. As for myself, I think \$50 a day for this trip is no more than fair, as this is less than my net income when at home. If you wish me to put in a formal bill or voucher, please advise me to which department it should be mailed.

I wish you would show a copy of this letter to Dr. Murray, or whoever is the head of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Juneau at present, also Governor John Troy, and I am taking the liberty of sending a copy to Tony Diamond in Washington. I am sure that Governor Troy and Tony Diamond will do all they can to see that a competent hospital and staff, either denominational or governmental, is placed at Point Barrow. Also I hope you will use your great influence to help in this cause.

Awaiting your early reply, and with kindest personal regards,
I remain

Sincerely,

F. B. Gillespie

June
14th
1935

Dr. Floyd Burke Gillespie,
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Doctor Gillespie:

I was interested in the reference to your recent visit to Barrow, in a letter received from Dr. Greist, and I felt that it would be very profitable if I could receive something in the way of an official report from you relative to the situation as you found it at Barrow, especially in connection with conditions which obtain in our hospital. Being in a position, as a physician, to give me an illuminating statement with reference to the conditions which you found there, I would appreciate it very much if you would frankly give me your judgment concerning the efficiency of our whole present setup at Barrow. We are not at all satisfied, and indeed we are quite disturbed, with reference to reports which have come to us from different quarters relative to the whole situation up there, and I would be most grateful if I could get some such authoritative word as you can give me regarding the matter.

Thanking you in advance for this courtesy, and assuring you that whatever you write will be kept in strictest confidence, I am

Very sincerely yours,

JMS:BR

Fairbanks, Alaska
July 3, 1935

Mr. J. M. Somerndike
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Answering your letter of June 14, 1935, relative to conditions at Point Barrow, Alaska.

I am enclosing a three page letter which I wrote to Dr. W. W. Council, Territorial Commissioner of Health, Juneau, Alaska. This letter gives a fair description of conditions as they are in your hospital at present under the direction of Dr. Henry Greist. I dislike very much to make a report reflecting in any way on Dr. Greist, but the white residents of the Arctic Coast and many of the Eskimos were anxious that I should report the conditions as I saw them, so that a change might be made in the present setup at Barrow. Dr. Greist no doubt has done very fine work in the past, but due to the infirmities of old age, the fact that he is almost totally deaf, and in addition is a very didactic and belligerent individual, he is not a safe doctor to be in charge of the situation at Point Barrow. In fact, it seemed to me in my little contact with the good Doctor that he might be suffering from some senile psychosis. On my arrival I of course wished, as any ethical doctor would, to work in perfect harmony with Dr. Greist. However, I found this could not be done as the Doctor simply wanted to talk and talk indefinitely about his very pronounced opinions as to the proper treatment of Influenza and many other diseases, so it was necessary for me to take my nurses ~~and~~ visit every igloo in the village, accompanied by Mr. Daugherty, the Bureau teacher, and also the native teacher, in order to get an accurate picture of the situation. This I have described in my letter to Dr. Council, a copy of which is enclosed.

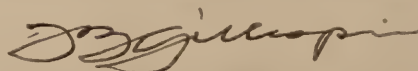
Now, Mr. Somerndike, unless you were to drop into Point Barrow on the Arctic Coast from the air as I did, during an Influenza epidemic, it would be almost impossible to visualize the conditions. The most lasting impression of my whole Arctic trip was the fact that the Eskimos are a marvelous race of people. They are the happiest, most contented people I have ever met. They are not a dying race as is the interior Indian, but are actually on the increase. If there is a place in the

whole world that needs a well equipped hospital, a competent doctor and competent nurses, it is Point Barrow, Alaska. The equipment of the hospital is not as much at fault as the personnel. However, it was my impression that with a competent staff several more beds would be needed. Dr. Greist had wires going out to the Associated Press which were relayed to the entire world that he had to knock down outhouses to build coffins and that the local population was on the verge of starvation, and many other startling statements which were obviously untrue.

I have given you as accurately as I can the information which I think would be most helpful to you. I sincerely hope that the population of the Arctic Coast may have a new doctor before the next winter sets in. Your nurse at Point Barrow, whose name I cannot recall, is not only a willing worker but also a very competent nurse. It was her wish to visit the igloos, but she was prevented by the local doctor from doing this.

If I can be of further service to you in this matter, and trusting that you will keep this letter entirely confidential, I remain

Very sincerely yours,



F. B. GILLESPIE, M. D.

FBC:F

Box 1330

Fairbanks, Alaska
August 15, 1935

Mr. J. M. Somerndike
156 Fifth Ave.
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Somerndike:

I was very glad to receive your letter of July 30. Your offer to turn over the hospital property at Point Barrow and all its equipment to the government without any compensation whatever on condition that the government provide a doctor and at least one nurse is certainly more than fair on your part. The government should certainly avail itself of this opportunity as your investment in the Point Barrow hospital must amount to quite a sum, and it should appreciate this.

I am today writing Dr. W. W. Council, Territorial Health Commissioner, Juneau, Alaska, who has great influence with Governor John Bigelow. Also I have taken the matter up with Anthony J. Dimond, our delegate in Washington, D. C., who promised to use his influence in this matter.

I wish to thank you for your prompt action; and if I can ever be of further service to you, please let me know.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

W. B. Gillespie

W. B. GILLESPIE, M. D.

F. B. I.

POINT BARROW, ALASKA

AUGUST 16, 1935

Dr. E. Graham Wilson, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York City

Both victims plane crash brought to hospital two A.M. dead. Since plane fell five P.M. many hours work necessary in properly preparing bodies for shipment States and finished seven this A.M. Wrapped bodies snow white linen and placed slabs in our new ware house under lock and absolute privacy (stop) I did not go to scene of wreck since fifteen miles distant but Sgt. Morgan of Army signal Corps took charge wrecking crew of Eskimo and brought bodies in while doctor and nurses prepared for any eventuality hoping one or both might be alive (stop) This late P.M. Alaska Pacific Airways plane in charge Joe Crosson with full authority assume charge bodies arrived and is yet here awaiting favorable flying conditions when will fly with them across Endicotts to Fairbanks where presumably bodies will be embalmed and otherwise prepared for shipment to homes (stop) bodies were terribly mutilated limbs broken superficial cuts and injuries all of which were disposed best possible manner and neatly in end. (stop) Eskimo and whites have left nothing undone in honor of dead but no local rites had since doctor worn to frazzle and indeed same seemed unwise on account lack clothing casket etc. probabilities is that plane bearing the bodies cannot leave until Saturday morning.

HENRY W. GREIST

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS, U.S.A.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
FIELD SERVICE

Juneau, Alaska
October 26, 1935

Presbyterian Mission Board
156 5th Avenue
New York City

Gentlemen:

Enclosed herewith are five copies of Government short form contract No. 33, covering hospitalization and care of sick, indigent natives who may be sent your Institution by this office from October 1, 1935 to June 30, 1936, inclusive.

Please sign each copy on the line indicated by the blue pencil check mark and return to this office. Upon completion of the contract by us a copy will be forwarded your representative at Point Barrow.

Very truly yours,

J. F. Van Ackeren
J. F. Van Ackeren
Medical Director

JC:IH

Encl. - 5 copies contract

RECEIVED
NOV - 8 1935
PRESBYTERIAN FOREIGN BOARD
TREASURER'S OFFICE

Nov.
14th
1935

Dr. J. F. Van Ackeren,
Medical Director,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Doctor Van Ackeren:

I am returning herewith the five copies of Short Form Contract #33, duly signed, covering the hospitalization and care of sick and indigent natives who may be sent to our hospital at Point Barrow through your office, from October 1st, 1935, to June 30th, 1936.

When you send a copy of this contract to Dr. Greist, our representative at Point Barrow Hospital, I hope you will give him careful instructions with reference to the manner in which reports should be made to your office in order to claim the financial provision which you have so generously made for the treatment of natives in our hospital.

Will you kindly make a note of the fact that all remittances covering any of the items included in this contract should be made to the Board of National Missions, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, and addressed in my care?

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Health

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

Mr. J. M. Somerndike,
Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

NOV 20 1935

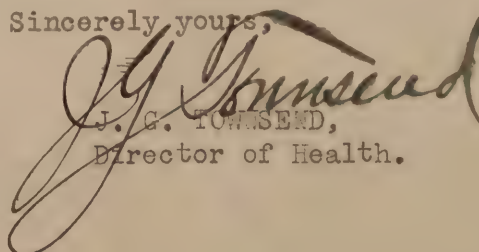
Dear Mr. Somerndike:

I have received your letter dated November 14 stating that you had received the short form contract covering hospitalization of natives at Barrow for the nine months from October 1, 1935, to June 30, 1936. I have been away on a long field trip which is the reason for the delay in my reply to your past letters. Then, too, I had been postponing writing until after we had had our hearings before the Bureau of the Budget and we had received some information as to what might be expected with reference to our estimates of appropriations required for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1936.

We would be glad to take over and operate the Point Barrow Hospital, beginning July 1, 1936, in accordance with our understanding with you, but the outlook for obtaining an appropriation for this purpose does not appear to be at all bright. The trend is still in the direction of economy, irrespective of how meritorious our requests may be. If we do not obtain funds to permit our operation of this hospital, we undoubtedly will be able to contribute an additional amount, not to exceed \$2500, toward the hospitalization of Eskimos in the Point Barrow Hospital. It should be added that we would not be willing to do this unless Dr. Greist is superseded by a competent physician. If you should be in Washington in the near future, I shall be glad to discuss this with you in greater detail. I am holding your copy of the floor plan and print showing the general lay-out of the building and grounds until after we have had our hearing before the sub-committee on appropriations at the Capitol. I appreciate very much your furnishing these to us, together with the information contained in your letters of October 22 and 24.

I think it would be wise if you could come down and talk things over with us before the Congressional hearings next month.

Sincerely yours,



J. C. TOWNSEND,
Director of Health.

Hospital at Point Barrow,
Alaska

A communication from
Dr. Marquis from the Board
of Home Missions stated
that \$25,000.- had been
received by that Board for
the erection of a hospital
at Point Barrow. An
inquiry was made as to
whether the Woman's Board
would feel that the
Board of Home Missions

were trespassing upon
its ground in carrying
out the conditions of the
\$25,000. = gift

Voted - that the Woman's
Board of Home Missions
feels the medical work at
Point Barrow, where the
evangelistic work is the
major interest, should be
under the Board of Home
Missions and that the
Woman's Board express

its appreciation that
the Board of Home Missions
will take up the
hospital work at Barrow

Minutes Women's Board of
H. M. Dec 23, 1919.

Nov.
26th
1935

Dr. J. G. Townsend,
Director of Health,
Office of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Doctor Townsend:

I have your letter of November 20th. I think it is very important that I should take the time to visit your office for further conversation with you relative to the placing of a medical officer in charge of health service at Point Barrow, especially in view of the fact that Dr. Greist has definitely stated that he is coming out next summer and all of his plans as well as ours are being made with that in view.

We are not planning to appoint in Dr. Greist's place a man who has had any medical training, and unless the Government provides a physician and a nurse at Barrow, the people in that entire area will be utterly without any medical service whatever after July 1936.

I would be very glad if I could be of any service in connection with the Congressional hearings, to do everything possible to influence the budget situation so that the necessary adjustments can be made in your budget to enable you to provide for the medical needs of these people.

Would it be convenient for you to see me on December 5th, and would that be early enough? I would plan to see you at about two o'clock in the afternoon. In replying, please let me know where your present quarters are located.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Health

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

NOV 29 1935

Mr. J. M. Somerndike,
Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

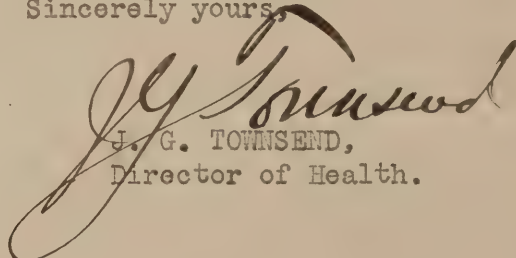
Dear Mr. Somerndike:

I will be very glad to see you on December 5. I think it important for you to be here some time before the Congressional hearings, and we will all be in the Office on the 5th of December.

Our present quarters are in the Hurley-Wright Building, room 1108. The Hurley-Wright Building is at the Corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and Eighteenth Street.

Looking forward to seeing you at the time specified in your letter, I am

Sincerely yours,


J. G. TOWNSEND,
Director of Health.

*Original
Revised 12/6 3000000000*

Dec.
4th
1935

Dr. James G. Townsend,
Director of Health,
Office of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Doctor Townsend:

The Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. has conducted missionary work at Point Barrow for the past forty-five years. In addition to the work of providing pastoral leadership for the native Presbyterian Church which was established at Barrow, the Board has provided a much needed health service. There are upwards of 1700 Eskimos in the area tributary to Barrow. The nearest government hospital is at Kotzebue, five hundred miles distant, which in view of the lack of transportation facilities for sick natives, has not been in a position to render any service to the isolated people in the ice-bound region of Barrow. No government physicians or nurses have been assigned to this area. The comparatively short season when open water enables ships to reach Barrow (in some years there are not more than two weeks in a single year when the ice pack opens sufficiently to permit ships to discharge a cargo of food supplies, coal, etc., for the government representatives, traders, and for the maintenance of our hospital) prevents these people from receiving the medical care which the government provides in the annual health itinerary of its health representatives, in the farthest northern communities of Eskimos who are American citizens. The Presbyterian Church has therefore carried the entire burden of health service for these neglected people.

Recurring epidemics of measles, influenza, and diphtheria, together with the ever-present scourge of tuberculosis, have at times threatened to exterminate the population of this area. The ravages of these diseases have been checked by the medical ministry of the missionaries employed by the Board of National Missions. Every missionary who has been commissioned to this field has had full medical training in addition to his preparation for the ministry of the gospel. It is not too much to say that these dependent, underprivileged people have survived the inroads of disease and the constant menace of unsanitary conditions, only because of the health service rendered by the mission Board of the Presbyterian Church, without any financial assistance from the government.

In 1920 the Board of National Missions erected a hospital at Barrow, the funds being provided in the amount of \$50,000 by the Commonwealth Fund. The hospital contains eight ~~beds~~ and has accommodated as many as twenty bed patients at one time. Daily clinic and dispensary service is maintained. The hospital is fully equipped with all necessary appliances for surgical operations, besides laboratory equipment, dietary paraphernalia, and kitchen supplies. Accommodations are provided for nurses, housekeeper, janitor, and cook. In addition, there is a storage house for food supplies; another storage house for coal, gasoline, and oil; and an ice-house. A tractor has been provided for use in hauling shipments of fuel and other supplies from the beach where the supply ships unload to the storage houses, and for other purposes connected with the hospital service.

The expense of maintaining the properties, together with the high cost of transporting coal, food, and medical supplies each year, together with the heavy cost of ordinary maintenance, have been a great strain upon the limited resources of the Board of National Missions. The burden has been increasingly felt during the years of the present economic depression because of a reduction of nearly fifty per cent in the funds available for the Board's

missionary operations, which has necessitated a curtailment of the Board's work in many fields. Under these conditions, it is obviously impossible for the Board to improve and enlarge its medical service at Barrow to meet the present urgent necessities. The employment of an additional nurse is imperative and improvements in the equipment of the hospital are immediately necessary in order to render an efficient medical service. No funds are available for these purposes, and within the very near future the situation will become so critical that the Board will be obliged to consider the question of discontinuing its medical service and confining its efforts solely to the care of the native church, eliminating all expense of hospital maintenance. Such a contingency would be a calamity to these people who have no other means of obtaining medical care, and steps should be taken to avoid it if at all possible.

The present incumbent, Dr. Henry W. Greist, is obliged because of advancing years and impaired health, to retire from active service in the summer of 1936. The Board of National Missions feels that with this impending change in personnel an arrangement should be made with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Alaska Division, to assume the full responsibility for health service at Barrow, the Board providing only a minister for the native congregation. The Board's conviction that this change should be effected at this time is strengthened by the fact that a petition signed by all the white people at Barrow and by upwards of two hundred and fifty natives, has been presented to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, pleading for the establishment of a new hospital entirely under government auspices.

The Board of National Missions, therefore, proposes to the Bureau of Indian Affairs:-

1. That the Board of National Missions discontinue its health service at Point Barrow with the retirement of Dr. Greist in the summer of 1936.
2. That the Bureau of Indian Affairs assume the full responsibility for medical service for the natives of the Point Barrow area in the fall of 1936, appointing a resident physician and at least one nurse for this station, with such additional personnel as the government health service may deem necessary.
3. That the hospital building with its equipment and the use of the storage houses (excepting such articles as may be the personal property of Dr. Greist) be placed at the disposal of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, with authority to make such repairs, improvements, and additions to the present property and equipment as may be deemed necessary or advisable, without obligation to the Board of National Missions for rental, and without recompense of any kind.
4. That all drug, food, and fuel supplies in the hospital at the time of the transfer to the government, be made available for the use of the government representatives without recompense to the Board of National Missions.
5. That a decision with reference to this transfer be made prior to April 1st, 1936, owing to the fact that it is necessary at that time to purchase the fuel, food, and drug supplies for another year, and to arrange for the shipment of such supplies on the "Holmes" which leaves Seattle on its annual trip to Barrow about the 15th of May in each year.

Faithfully yours,

Dec.
6th
1935

Dr. James G. Townsend,
Director of Health,
Office of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Doctor Townsend:

I had a very satisfactory interview with Mr. Dimond. Not only is he favorable to our plans but promises to do everything within his power to carry the proposed appropriation of \$50,000 through Congressman Taylor's Committee. He promised to see Mr. Taylor today to talk over the whole matter and to bring him into a favorable attitude toward it, and also to request his authorization for me to appear before the Committee when the hearing is held.

In accordance with my promise, I am enclosing a copy of the letter I am writing to Congressman Taylor today, and a copy of my letter to Mr. Dimond. I will ask you to substitute for the letter which I left in your hands yesterday, the enclosed copy which is amended only verbally in certain places where it was needed. In no other particulars has the statement been changed. Just destroy the original copy which I left with you yesterday and substitute this one in your files.

It was a real joy to be with you again yesterday and to share your fine spirit of cooperation and good fellowship. I do appreciate all that you are doing to help us in bringing about the desired cooperation on the part of the government in the handling of the entire health situation in northern Alaska. We are sincere in our convictions that it is the best thing to do in the interests of the natives themselves, and since the government is asked to make no initial property investment it would seem that the proposition should commend itself to the Sub-Committee on Appropriations in a favorable way.

I wish you were planning to go to Alaska the latter part of March when I must go. It would shorten the trip a great deal to have your companionship along the way.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Secretary.

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Dec.
8th
1935

Hon. Edward Thomas Taylor, Chairman,
Sub-Committee on Appropriations,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Taylor:

Over a period of many months I have been in conference with Dr. Townsend and his associates in charge of government health service in Alaska, relative to the transfer of our Presbyterian Hospital at Point Barrow to the government. Dr. Townsend included in his request for appropriations for the health service, an item of approximately \$30,000 for the maintenance of this hospital, necessary renovations and improvements to the property, and for the salaries of the necessary staff.

I have learned that the Budget Committee did not see its way clear to approve this item; but knowing that your Sub-Committee on Appropriations will review the recommendations of the Budget Office, and also in view of the critical situation likely to develop if the proposal for government operation of this hospital is not carried into effect, I felt impelled to write to you to seek your sympathetic consideration and review of the reasons for requesting the necessary funds to enable the government to take charge of all the health work on the northern coast of Alaska.

I am enclosing a copy of a formal proposal which I have placed in the hands of Dr. Townsend, which I hope you will read very carefully. It contains a comprehensive statement regarding the activities of the Presbyterian Board of National Missions at Barrow for the past forty-five years. During this period we have received no financial assistance from the government in ministering to the health requirements of the needy and isolated population numbering from 1700 to 2000 Eskimos, who are living in the area tributary to Barrow. Freight charges on the supplies which we are obliged to send to Barrow for the maintenance of the hospital each year amount to approximately two and one-half times the cost of the supplies themselves, placing an almost impossible burden upon our Board, especially in the present condition of our finances, to conduct work at the hospital on an adequate basis and with the efficiency that would make such a ministry to these natives worth-while and effective.

I wish to impress upon you the three main reasons why we are now asking the government to assume this responsibility:

1. Because it seems quite clear that the government has a distinct obligation to provide health service for this large company of Alaska citizens on the north coast of Alaska, who are not able to receive any medical service from government health institutions now being operated in the Alaska territory.
2. Because the decrease in our Board's income for the support of its missionary operations has resulted in a heavy indebtedness which requires a drastic curtailment of our missionary activities, making it impracticable for us to continue our present appropriation for the maintenance of our hospital at Point Barrow.
3. Because the retirement of Dr. Greist, the present physician-missionary,

in the summer of 1936, after fifteen years of continuous service in this field, offers a propitious opportunity for the government to assume responsibility for the hospital at that time. With the retirement of Dr. Greist it is our Board's intention to employ only a minister in his place to take charge of the Eskimo congregation at Barrow (our church is the only church of any faith in that entire area), which would mean that the people would be left without any hospitalization or health service of any kind, as there is not even a nurse assigned to that area.

I would like to emphasize the fact that in transferring this responsibility the Board would turn over to the government all the property, equipment, and supplies connected with the hospital, which it would be impossible for the government to duplicate if it were inaugurating a health service at Barrow for upwards of \$75,000 or \$100,000. The Board asks no recompense from the government in placing all of its property at the disposal of this much needed health service in the efficient manner in which the government will do it, and it is because the government will be relieved of any necessity for making an initial property investment that this health service can be carried on under government auspices with such a comparatively small budget provision as has been suggested, namely \$30,000.

I have also conferred with Mr. Anthony J. Dimond, the Alaska delegate, with reference to this matter. He heartily favors it and he plans to confer with you on the subject in the immediate future. I shall be very glad to meet your Sub-Committee on Appropriations at such time as you may designate in conference with Mr. Dimond, to give you any further light that your Committee may desire in considering this important matter.

Praying that you will give this matter the earnest consideration which its importance to the welfare of this large Eskimo population requires, I am, sir,

Most respectfully yours,

JMS:BH

Secretary.

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Dec.
8th
1935

Hon. Anthony J. Dimond,
Room 455,
House of Representatives Bldg. (old)
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dimond:

Permit me to express my deep gratitude for the gracious manner in which you received me yesterday on my visit with reference to the Barrow Hospital matter. It was most gratifying to find that you shared our point of view with reference to the government's responsibility for the health of these isolated and neglected native citizens in northern Alaska, and we are deeply appreciative of your kind offer to intercede with the Sub-Committee on Appropriations, of which Congressman Taylor is the Chairman, in the effort to secure authorization of the modest appropriation which has been proposed to enable the government to take over this important enterprise.

I have written to Mr. Taylor in accordance with our agreement yesterday and I enclose a copy of my letter to him, to which is attached the formal proposal which I placed in the hands of Dr. Townsend, who is in charge of the government health service. I shall now await word from you as to the date of the hearing on this matter so that I can arrange to be in Washington to meet the Committee if you find in conference with Mr. Taylor that my presence at that meeting will be welcomed by him.

Please do not forget to send me a copy of your radio address to your Alaska constituents, to which I would like to give some publicity in our Presbyterian missionary publications, as soon as it is released.

I am hoping and praying that our united efforts may result in bringing the Sub-Committee on Appropriations into a favorable attitude toward the transfer of the health work at Barrow to government auspices.

With renewed expression of my appreciation of your kindness and cooperation, I am, sir,

Most respectfully yours,

JMS:BH

Secretary.

Alaska

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

Dec. 6, 1935.

Mr. J. M. Somerndike,
Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Somerndike:

In accordance with my promise to you yesterday, I am enclosing herewith a copy of our estimate for taking over and operating the Point Barrow hospital July 1, 1936, as submitted to the Bureau of the Budget.

I am also quoting below the paragraph with reference to the Point Barrow hospital as it will be submitted to the Sub-Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

1700 — "The Presbyterian Mission Board conducts a hospital for Eskimos at Point Barrow, Alaska, which serves approximately 1500 natives along the Arctic coast. Prior to the current fiscal year the Government has not assisted this hospital in any way. Beginning with this year, we have entered into a contract to pay the Presbyterian Mission Board approximately \$1,700 toward the care of Eskimos at the Point Barrow hospital. The Presbyterians are very desirous of relinquishing all medical work at Point Barrow and confining their activities entirely to religious instruction of the natives. If they are to continue the hospital it will be necessary for the Indian Office to contribute more largely toward the expense of providing hospitalization for Eskimos of this region, which it is conceded is the duty of the Federal Government rather than of the Presbyterian Church."

We will have ready to submit to the Appropriations Committee the estimate of \$30,620, as submitted to the Budget, with some minor revisions such as the inclusion of a statement with reference to the need for a new heating plant.

You understand, of course, that the enclosed statement is confidential, inasmuch as we are not permitted to make public items which are turned down by the Bureau of the Budget.

Sincerely yours,

David E. Thomas

Chief of Alaska Section.

Enclosure 779084.

If you have any data with reference to number of patients, number of hospital days, diseases treated, number of treatments, operations, or other service rendered, it might help in appearing before the Committee.

Thomas

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

December Seventh
1935

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Secretary, Board of National Missions,
of the Presbyterian Church
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Doctor Somerndike:


Your letter of December 6, enclosing copy of letter of the same date addressed to Hon. Edward T. Taylor, Chairman of the Sub-committee on Appropriations, and copy of letter, dated December 4, addressed to Dr. James G. Townsend of the Office of Indian Affairs, reached me this morning.

Yesterday I inquired of the clerk of the Sub-committee and also of one of the officials of the Interior Department when the Alaska items in the budget would be reached for hearing, and was informed that no time had been set. I shall be advised several days in advance when this matter will be taken up so there will be ample time to notify you.

Your statement to Mr. Taylor concerning the situation is very clear and concise and I am sure he will give us every opportunity to present the matter adequately to the Sub-committee.

With kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


Anthony J. Dimond
Delegate

Dec.
9th
1935

Mr. David E. Thomas,
Chief of Alaska Section,
Office of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Thank you very much for your letter of the 6th instant. No doubt Dr. Townsend will share with you my letter of December 6th in which I reported to him the results of my conference with Mr. Dimond.

I am looking forward to meeting you all again when the Sub-Committee on Appropriations gives us an opportunity to present the reasons why the Government should assume the responsibility for the medical work at Pt. Barrow.

In addition to the information which I have already given you regarding the situation at Barrow, I wish to say that our hospital treated 2,847 patients during the past year. Dr. Greist, the physician in charge, performs many tonsilectomies and other minor operations. Besides, he holds a daily clinic for the natives, treating them for minor injuries and diseases. The prevailing diseases which the hospital at Barrow is obliged to combat are diphtheria, measles, influenza, and pneumonia. A considerable portion of the Eskimo population is afflicted with tuberculosis. Since our hospital was established, the Eskimos have become accustomed to seek its service in practically all maternity cases.

I am hoping and praying that our united efforts may result in bringing the Sub-Committee on Appropriations into a favorable attitude toward the transfer of the health work at Barrow to government auspices.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BN

Secretary.

ANTHONY J. DIMOND
DELEGATE FROM ALASKA

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C.

December Seventeenth
1 9 3 5

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Doctor Somerndike:

This morning I had an opportunity, finally, to testify before the sub-committee having under consideration the Interior Department appropriation bill. As strongly as I possibly could I urged the adoption of the proposal which you made that the Government take over the hospital maintained by the Board of Missions at Point Barrow and appropriate sufficient funds to carry on the work, namely, \$30,000. for the ensuing year. While nothing is certain with respect to the adoption of this or any other item in the appropriation bill, the committee was obviously impressed by our plea for relief. The suggestion was made that I was subject to election by the people of the Territory, but I was able to assure the committee that the Eskimos of the Point Barrow region and along the Arctic coast had never voted and probably would not vote for years to come.

Mr. Taylor, chairman of the sub-committee, interrogated me rather closely as to whether the full amount of \$30,000. was necessary. I told him candidly that probably the hospital could be maintained for a smaller amount but that if the job were to be undertaken there were obvious advantages in doing it well rather than poorly. Of course even if this sub-committee recommends the inclusion of the necessary amount in the bill, it may be kicked out somewhere else along the line - either in the full committee or on the floor of the House or in the Senate or in conference. However, thanks to your effort, we have made distinct progress and I am very hopeful today of the outcome.

The gratitude of the people of Alaska will go out to you for your very efficient aid in this matter.

With kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Anthony J. Dimond
Delegate

AJD:B

Dec.
18th
1935

Hon. Anthony J. Dimond,
Delegate from Alaska,
House of Representatives Office Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dimond:

I do appreciate beyond words your effective cooperation in our efforts to have the government assume its responsibility in behalf of the natives at Point Barrow, with respect to a government operated hospital there. It is gratifying indeed to know that our presentation before the Sub-Committee impressed them favorably; and with the splendid support which you gave to my plea, I really feel quite hopeful that the Committee will recommend that this appropriation be made. I am sure that you will follow it through as closely as the circumstances justify and in order to avoid the possibility of its being dropped out somewhere along the line in case the Committee should decide to include it in their recommendations.

We have the strong backing of the Indian Office in this matter. I talked with Mr. Collier, Dr. Townsend, and Mr. Thomas, all of whom have promised that when they are given a hearing on the budget for the Department of Indian Affairs they will warmly support our proposal in behalf of Point Barrow.

Wishing you the compliments of the season, and trusting that you may have increasing joy and satisfaction in your arduous labors in behalf of your constituency, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Secretary.

ENCLOSURE 779084

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

JUSTIFICATION

88-11

ESTIMATES OF APPROPRIATIONS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1937

purpose, that amount includes payments to such institutions as the Children's Orthopedic Hospital at Seattle and the Alaska Railroad Base Hospital at Anchorage, and only about \$1,000 to hospitals conducted by religious organizations in Alaska.

The Protestant Episcopal Church conducts a good hospital at Fort Yukon and another at Wrangell, where many of the patients are natives. The Methodist Hospital at Nome and others to whom we are at present making small payments also render much service to Eskimos and Indians. All of these institutions are facing a situation of declining financial backing. They should be paid a fair rate for hospitalization of Indians. We have many requests for hospitalization for Eskimos and Indians at places where no Indian Service hospital is available which must be turned down because of lack of funds. There is involved not only the hospital care of the natives, but in many instances the cost of getting emergency cases to the hospital by airplane. The amount requested is comparatively small and is urgently needed.

Point Barrow Hospital, \$30,620: This is an entirely new item. The hospital has hitherto been conducted by the Presbyterian Church Mission Board. During recent years there has been a demand, growing more insistent each year, that the Indian Service take over this hospital and operate it. The Presbyterian Mission Board, the Eskimos of this region, and the whites are all agreed that the Presbyterians should confine their efforts to religious matters and that the hospitalization of the Eskimos is a duty of the Federal Government, which could perform that function with greater satisfaction and benefit to all concerned.

The Presbyterian Mission Board has urgently requested that the Indian Service relieve it of the burden of operating the Point Barrow Hospital, offering to turn over the building and the hospital equipment free of cost.

The building is a frame structure of one story and basement, with twelve beds for patients.

The estimate of \$30,620 includes the following items:

Renovation, repair, and new equipment.....	\$10,000
Subsistence, supplies, fuel, medicine, etc.....	10,000
Salaries.....	<u>10,620</u>

TOTAL..... \$ 30,620

JUSTIFICATION

88-12

ESTIMATES OF APPROPRIATIONS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1937

The salaries are listed below and are net (after deductions for quarters and subsistence):

1 Physician	\$3,940
2 nurses, at \$1,340.	2,680
1 cook	1,140
1 orderly and janitor.....	1,140
2 native attendants, at \$600.....	1,200
1 laundress.....	<u>520</u>

TOTAL.....\$ 10,620

Language change: Authority is now carried in the Interior Department Appropriation Act for the payment of traveling expenses of new appointees in our Alaska education service and our Alaska medical service from Seattle, Washington, to their posts of duty in Alaska. The wording of the appropriation act, however, does not cover the transportation to post of duty of new appointees already in Alaska. The cost of transportation from Seattle to southeastern Alaska is comparatively small, averaging about \$50 per person. The cost of transportation from southeastern Alaska to the interior and northwestern Alaska is comparatively large and may run as high as \$300 per person. To compel an appointee already in Alaska to pay his own transportation to his post of duty, when an appointee from the States receives transportation from the Government is manifestly unfair.

Purchase of Land: Progress is being made in obtaining title to land adjacent to the Juneau hospital, for which not to exceed \$4,000 was authorized to be expended this year. Some difficulty is being experienced with one tract, but it is hoped that all purchases can be completed before the end of the year.

For the past fifteen years, Dr. Greist has occupied a unique position as medical director of the Presbyterian Hospital, and as pastor of the native Eskimo church situated in Point Barrow, Alaska, the farthest north village on the American continent.

The names of Dr. and Mrs. Greist are known to our entire Church, as modern missionary heroes.

In his medical ministry, Dr. Greist has been ably assisted by Mrs. Greist who is a fully trained, graduate, registered, nurse. The constituency which the Barrow Hospital serves includes upwards of seventeen hundred Eskimos scattered over a wide area extending along the northern coast of Alaska for a distance of over five hundred miles to Demarcation Point.

Besides his medical work which has meant so much to these dependent and isolated people, Dr. Greist's evangelistic itineraries have been carried on in this entire area. The strongest mission outpost is located at Wainwright, ninety miles south of Barrow where a native worker, Percy Ipalook, is now the minister in charge. He is a convert of our mission at Barrow, having been educated in our Sheldon Jackson School in Sitka, and completing his theological training in Du-buque Seminary.

Through almost perennial epidemics of diphtheria and influenza, diseases to which the Eskimos are particularly susceptible, Dr. and Mrs. Greist have ^{saved many lives} ~~protected them~~ by timely care and effective medical treatment, ~~saving the~~ ^{lives of parents and children.} At the same time, they have, ~~carried on~~, with rare ^{made} patience, ~~a~~ persistent efforts to prevent the recurrence of these epidemics whose ravages wrought ^{great} ~~such~~ havoc among these under-privileged people in the years prior to the establishment of our hospital. The entire Country was stirred by the daily newspaper reports last spring, carrying the story of the battle which was being waged at this farthest outpost of medical service to bring the epidemic of influenza under control.

"Now," Dr. Greist writes, "I am beginning to feel that the Lord is ready to excuse me from further service on this coast. Prayer and earnest seeking after the mind of the Spirit causes me to express myself thus. I have nothing to regret save my limited ability to serve Him. Many souls have been brought to the Lord Jesus Christ and I have preached the word with all faithfulness. And yet I shall leave my heart within this far North for which people I have poured out my very best."

The names of Dr. and Mrs. Greist are well known throughout the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. and their service has been appreciated by a grateful constituency at the home base, not only because of the romantic character of their labors among these unfamiliar Eskimo tribes, about whose life and customs comparatively little is known and who appear only infrequently in the news of world affairs. In all their labors they have been supported by the earnest prayers of a multitude of Presbyterians who have shared the burdens of the work with them.

To give the best years of one's life in consecrated service in an isolated outpost, so remote that they can have only occasional contact with civilization, enduring the rigors of a climate where sub-zero temperatures prevail for the greater part of the year, living in a village where there are but a handful of white people besides themselves, with no regular mail service, and to endure cheerfully the separation from one's family and friends; to carry on with a sense of confidence and security while sending their only child to the States for his education - these are circumstances which can only be met by a quality of faith and courage which transcends the ordinary tests of Christian grace and fortitude. These hardships and many more which words cannot describe have been the daily portion of the Greists as they have given themselves to their task in the Name of Christ and as the representatives of our great Church.

While Dr. and Mrs. Greist have been busy healing the bodies of

their Eskimo friends, they have been even more zealous to heal their souls. Dr. Greist is the pastor of a large congregation who faithfully attend the regular services of their church, which is the only church that has ever ministered to their needs. Faithfully and patiently he has been leading them out of the darkness of their pagan beliefs and practices into a knowledge of the true God and into fellowship with Jesus. Both as their spiritual leader and physician, Dr. Greist has labored as a true evangelist. He has had no other message for these benighted folk but the story of the redemptive love of God exemplified in the person of Jesus Christ, the light of the world, the Saviour of mankind.

Such a task is not without its disappointments and discouragements, especially on occasions when one who gave every evidence of sound conversion slips back into the old life with its immoralities and kindred vices, under the influence of former companions in sin. Dr. Greist deals patiently with them, guiding them back into the fold and endeavoring to fortify them in their new avowals and efforts to be true followers of the Christ.

And now these faithful soldiers of the Cross are feeling the weight of their advancing years; and the effects of their long stay in the Arctic are now beginning to manifest themselves. A severe attack of illness more than a year ago, with no opportunity to recuperate, exacted a heavy toll ^{quite} upon Dr. Greist's rugged constitution. Mrs. Greist, in recent months, has likewise been obliged to lighten her tasks because of impaired health. It would be cruel to expect them to remain at this difficult post under these conditions. In grateful recognition of their sacrificial service, the Board has arranged ^{adequate financial} ~~for their return in the summer of 1936, guaranteeing the continuance of their salaries for the period of two years which will elapse until Dr. Greist reaches the retirement age, permitting them to reside wherever they desire and with the hope that they will seek the recreation and rest that they so richly deserve.~~

Dr. Greist's work will go on; and the heroic sacrifices and labors of the years spent in Barrow will bear perennial fruitage in the lives of those

who have come under his influence. Others will take up the torch which he has carried unfalteringly, surmounting all obstacles, and will continue to build and enlarge the temple of God in this remote, ice-bound mission in the Arctic Circle.

It will be of interest to all the friends of Dr. Greist and of the Barrow work, to learn that Rev. Frederick G. Klerekoper and his wife, Nan Klerekoper (nee Bruen,) who were appointed two years ago in charge of our mission station at Skagway, have accepted an appointment to succeed Dr. Greist in this important post. Rev. and Mrs. Klerekoper have rendered outstanding service at Skagway, and they are qualified in an exceptional way to carry on the work at Barrow.

Mr. Klerekoper is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, class of 1933. Mrs. Klerekoper is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Henry M. Bruen, who are well known to our Church for their many years of devoted service in the Chosen mission. Mrs. Klerekoper is also a fully trained registered nurse.

~~It is~~ In conformity with the policy of the Government to assume responsibility for hospitalization for the Eskimo population; and in response to a petition signed by all the white people at Barrow and upwards of three hundred Eskimos, it is expected that provision will be made in the near future for the transfer of the medical work at Barrow to the Government health service with a full-time resident physician, a competent staff of nurses, and the installation of up-to-date surgical equipment. Further announcement with reference to these arrangements will be made as soon as the details of the transfer have been completed.

February, 1936

POINT BARROW HOSPITAL

Because of rumors concerning the closing of Point Barrow Hospital, may I pass on to you the following information as to the exact status of this Hospital?

"We have no thought of 'closing' the Point Barrow mission. Dr. Greist, who is in charge of the hospital as well as being pastor of our Point Barrow Church, has been ill; and because of his advanced age he finds it necessary to return to the States this coming summer. The hospital is greatly in need of increased facilities. A steam-heating plant is necessary and various other improvements, which would be very costly and for which the Board has no funds. Since the recent epidemic of influenza, the Government has become very much interested in the health situation at Barrow and realizes its obligation to provide satisfactory health service for the Eskimos at Barrow, as they are doing for the natives in other parts of Alaska. The people of the community have presented a petition to the Government to erect a new hospital at Point Barrow. Realizing that the Government was in a better position because of the larger funds at its command to provide hospital facilities at Barrow on a more efficient basis, we have encouraged them to take over the operating of our hospital instead of building a new one, and to make such improvements as are necessary in the present building and facilities. We have also joined with the people in requesting the Government to place a physician in charge with at least two nurses, one of whom to be a visiting nurse. This latter service has been greatly needed at Barrow, but the funds of the Board have not permitted us to appoint this additional worker.

"I do not know whether the Government will be able to make the necessary appropriation. If they do not see their way clear to do it, the Board will continue its health work at Barrow until such time as the Government is able to relieve us of that responsibility. Of course it is our purpose to continue our mission work at Barrow, and when Dr. Greist returns to the States, we shall send another missionary to Barrow in his place to take charge of the congregation and out-stations. He will be greatly advantaged in building up the church in all its various activities if he is not obliged to carry the responsibility for health ministries as Dr. Greist has been obliged to do."

Point Barrow, Alaska, Feb'y 6, 1936.

Dr. J. M. Somerndike, Sec'y,
156 Fifth Ave., New York.

Dear Doctor Somerndike:

In re coal

In 1933 we received a coal which burned fiercely, quickly, and left a large relative amount of ash. I wrote Mr. John Backland, Cap't of the "Holmes," in re thereto, suggesting that the coal was excellent for a cooking range, but quite unsatisfactory for heaters and furnaces.

In summer of 1934 the same identical coal was delivered us with like results. Again I complained to him and he agreed to buy for us the Utah coal which in previous years (at same price) was most satisfactory, and would deliver said Utah coal the following season.

But again in 1935 a like coal was given us, tho in larger sized pieces or chunks. This coal burns with all dampers closed most quickly, with an oil oozing therefrom, and leaves a very large amount of ash with some clinkers. In my opinion, it is from ~~Eastern~~ Washington, hard by Seattle, on base of mountains, and is to be had in Seattle at a much cheaper price per ton than is the Utah coal. It is believed that we are paying the Utah price, but that we get Washington coal. Traders here whose wants are supplied by Captain Backland receive the same coal, and they believe it is not Utah product. Of course, we may be in error, but we are agreed in premises.

If now I am relieved this coming summer, then personally the problem will no longer be mine, but I bespeak satisfaction for the new missionary. Being denied normal amounts of fuel, it becomes increasingly desirable that we have at least satisfactory coal, particularly if the prices for the different sorts be the same, in other words-- if the Utah coal is to be had as cheaply as the poorer grade from the state of Washington, then the Utah coal is certinly to be desired and should be had.

This, for your information.

Truly yours,

Henry W. Greist
Henry W. Greist, M.B., Sup't.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

Health

MAR 11 1936

Mr. J. M. Somerndike,
Secretary, Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the United States,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

Dear Mr. Somerndike:

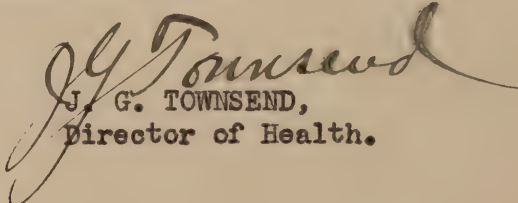
I have your letter of March 5 regarding the taking over of the Point Barrow Hospital by the Government, and have noted your queries as to the present status of things.

The appropriation bill has passed both Houses of Congress, but at present there are certain features which are being considered in conference by committees of the Senate and the House. As soon as the conferees agree the bill will go to the President for signature. I anticipate that final action will be taken soon. The item in which you were interested was not changed by the Senate, and therefore is not under consideration now. I will let you know when final action has been taken.

We have written Dr. Van Ackeren to take whatever preliminary steps he can in planning for the taking over of this institution.

With personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


J. G. TOWNSEND,
Director of Health.

1156-57 Stuart Building
Seattle, Washington

April 27th, 1936

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
156 Fifth Avenue
New York

Dear Doctor Somerndike:

Thank you very much for the enclosed letter of Dr. Greist concerning his opinions of coal. It seems that it is at last my turn to be a target for the recriminations. Unless Dr. Greist is somewhat careful some one out here is liable to become slightly irritated.

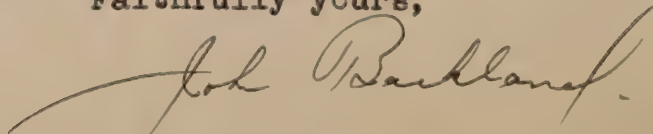
Just to keep the record straight, I enclose also a letter from the Continental Coal Company, which I think should be ample refutation of the analysis by the Pt. Barrow coal expert.

Even though I should have sunk so low as to chisel out a hundred dollars or so by substituting inferior coal for the real Utah, I should hardly care to do it - in the face of Gene C. Gould's examination of the Utah coal on the dock.

Thank you very much for your expression of your faith in me and, perhaps with the enclosed letter, we can forget all about it.

With kindest personal regards,

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John Backland". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Faithfully yours,".

B:M

Captain John Backland



CONTINENTAL COAL CO.

COAL AND COKE

SEATTLE

April 27, 1936

Capt. John Backland,
1157 Stuart Building,
Seattle, Washington.

Dear Sir:

We know that the only coal which you have taken north with you has been Standard Utah Lump Coal. We cannot understand how any one can confuse this coal with any coal mined in the State of Washington, and hereby guarantee that the coal for 1933, 1934 and 1935 was mined by the Standard Coal Company of Salt Lake City, Utah, at their mine at Standardville, Utah.

We do not understand how you could have any complaint or question that it was other than Utah Coal. This coal is the same as we bid for the requirements of the government, and has always come up to the government specification of 13,500 B.T.U.s.

We appreciate helping you clear this up.

Yours very truly,

CONTINENTAL COAL COMPANY

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. J. Henry', written over the printed name of the company.

DFO'L:rdg

Barrow

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Office of Education and Publicity
Presbyterian Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue, New York City

JUL 7 1936
July 7, 1936

According to announcement by the Presbyterian Board of National Missions, full responsibility for the medical service to the Eskimo population in the vicinity of Point Barrow, Alaska, carried by that Board since 1897, was transferred to the Alaska Division of the Office of Indian Affairs of the Federal Government July first. Realizing that the Government was in a better position, because of the larger funds at its command, to provide the medical facilities for this remote and administratively-expensive station and to extend the service, some years ago the Board entered into negotiations with it to take over the hospital. With the inclusion by this Congress of an appropriation of more than \$30,000 in the Interior Department Appropriations Bill for medical service at Barrow for next year, four times the amount expended by the Board annually, the transfer became of effect. The plans of the government provide not only for the operation of the hospital with a resident physician and nursing staff but also for the employment of a field nurse who will travel by dog team with an Eskimo guide to the Coast villages east of Point Barrow. The hospital building will be rehabilitated and modern surgical equipment added.

The Board of National Missions will continue mission work at Barrow and vicinity under Rev. and Mrs. Fred Klerekoper, who have been serving at Skagway, Alaska, for the past two years. The transfer of the medical work to the government makes financially possible the extension of the Board's evangelistic program, and a lay worker, an elder in the Barrow church, carefully trained for the work, has been appointed for a full-time service of

itinerant evangelism among the Eskimos in the neglected area east of Point Barrow to Barter Island and Demarcation Point. This project will be under the supervision of Mr. Klerekoper, as will also the work at Wainwright, one hundred miles south of Point Barrow, where there is a Presbyterian church of over one hundred members of which Rev. Percy Ipalook, product of the work at Barrow, graduate of Sheldon Jackson School, Sitka, Alaska, and of Dubuque Seminary, Iowa, is pastor.

Presbyterian work at Barrow began with the commissioning of Leander M. Stevenson in 1890, but it was not until seven years later that medical service was undertaken. Then Dr. H. R. Marsh, a graduate in the spring of that year from a medical college in New York City, was commissioned. In the past thirty-nine years four physicians accepted appointment as medical missionaries to this difficult post, serving at the same time as pastor of the Eskimo churches in the Barrow area. On account of impaired health and advancing years Dr. Henry W. Greist, missionary now in charge, has sought relief from his vigorous labors and retires in August after a service of sixteen years as pastor of a church of more than three hundred and twenty-five members and physician in charge of the hospital. In recognition of their faithful and heroic services, the Board of National Missions has made liberal provision for him and Mrs. Greist during their years of retirement from service.

Point Barrow Alaska
July 10, '76.

Dear Dr. Somerville:

A plane with office Indian apparatus
is here, bringing mail, and will carry mail
South.

With the Washington men, and others
from General's office, we looked over the
hospital premises until 1:30 am. The
sun yet shining over a solidly packed
mass of ice at sea. I will see these
representations of the East further.

Enclose \$10.00 by way of check on my
bank to cover same amount just at
hand from Christian F. Naudel, of
#7144 - 68th Place, Glendale, L.I., N.Y.
He is General Secy of the Populist General
missions to Caribbean countries I think,
at least of the Jamaica General mission.
This is to be credited to the "Ridgewood
Gospel Center" - \$9.00, and to a boy's class \$1.00.
This contribution came by way of currency, and
I prefer to remit to you by check - paper.

Yours,

Henry H. Frost

P.S.
In very great haste.

Point Barrow, Alaska, July 10, 1936.

Dr. J. M. Somerndike, Sec'y,
156 Fifth Ave., New York.

Dear Doctor Somerndike:

Drs. James G. Townsend, Director of Health, U.S. Indian Office, Washington, D.C., and J. F. Van Ackersen, Office of Indian Affairs, Juneau, Alaska, and Messrs. David E. Thomas, Chief Alaska Section, U. S. Indian Office, Washington, D.C., and Claude M. Hirst, Director of Education, Office of Indian Affairs, Juneau, Alaska, came into Barrow by plane the 8th inst, and are yet here, and will so remain until weather conditions are improved for flying.

Perhaps you will be interested in learning somewhat of that being done and said, altho you may even now be apprised of much.

Surveys both within and external to the hospital main building have been and are being made.

The present staff of native employes are retained for the present. Lee Suvlu, janitor, is to be paid \$100 the month, he to sleep and eat at home. Terza Ungerook and Ella Massoo, are retained as maids at \$20 the month, and provided they sleep at home will be paid more, ~~this wage scale to be increased provided they sleep at home.~~

Quarters for the medical staff are to be erected at once, yet this fall, at the S.E. corner of the hospital, on higher ground, a steam (central) heating plant to be placed in between, a closed passage-way to be built connecting ~~both~~ the coal sheds and the small heating plant house, as ^{I have} begged of the Board to do for years.

An addition to the main building is contemplated, soon, on West end, for surgery and preparation rooms, if not also for contagious diseases. This, my plan as suggested to the Board in 1922, years since, when Miss Dakin and I worked it out together. The entire building as it now stands comes in for criticism, courteously made, as unfitted for hospital service, better arranged for an ordinary boarding house, as the writer has asserted often. It is poorly constructed and poorly placed as to points of the compass, and in consequence of the latter affords poor light for the working section, that of the medical staff. The architect was in the first place wrong as to his ideas, little knowing the requirements of a small hospital, and the carpenter sent here in 1920 proved possessed of small judgment as to how the building should stand as to light, etc., in addition to the location. All this will ~~be~~ remedied in so far as is possible, by the construction of additions, etc.

Your wire to Dr. Van Ackersen the 8th or possibly 9th, which was shown me, saying that the Board desires to retain the coal sheds, met with my instant criticism account the fact that the coal sheds are on the extreme East of the hospital, fifty feet distant, ~~from Hospital~~, and are inaccessible to the manse, and will be further isolated when the residence for doctor and nurses as planned and ordered will be placed in between.

Dr. J.M.S. - 2
From Greist of Barrow
July 19, 1936.

I really suspect that you intended to say in your wire to the Doctor, "Ware-House" rather than what you said, "Coal-Sheds". The Government doctors here are emphatically unanimous in their attitude as to the absolute necessity for the Government to retain the coal-sheds owing to their location (it is positively impossible to move them unless they be torn down), their proximity to the hospital, the fact that they are on the East side of the main bldg., and will be on the N.E. side of the new residence for doctor and nurses, the central heating plant in between residence and hospital and connected (furnace room, that is) with the coal house by closed passage way as urged by writer often times in years gone by. Hence I suggested that the Doctor reply as he did, which wire was submitted to me for my criticism ere sent.

Reference to that map drawn to scale by writer and now in possession of Mr. Banks will indicate clearly the situation as to the several buildings and the impracticability of retaining the coal-sheds as now located, it is believed.

And because the doctors readily appreciated the necessity of building a surgery and preparation rooms to the so-called hospital building very soon, and further that these necessary rooms would necessarily be placed on West side of the hospital, or end rather, as urged by writer as far back as 1922 in co/laboration with Miss Florence C. Dakin, then my head nurse, the Doctors expressed themselves as believing it would be necessary to have more room (ground) at that end of the building than that suggested by writer recently in correspondence with you, namely 22 feet. And I readily backed down from my position, and recommended that 55 feet be given to the Government, but in so doing made myself clearly understood as speaking without authority in premises, merely suggesting as said, and I would have you know that I was very far from assuming or desirous of seeming to act arbitrarily. This 55 ft surrendered at West end of hospital, at a line running approximately (not strictly) N. and S., leaves us some five (5) feet on "East side of "Igloo" and the ancient ice house now ready to be torn down and built anew and better. The latter is absolutely essential to the well-being and comfort of the incoming missionary, since all drinking water and potable water for cooking must be had from melted ice. The present ice house within hospital proper but 10 x 12 ft in dimensions is entirely inadequate for the hospital proper, and it will be impossible for the missionary to claim a share of that ice stored within. Hence it is desirable at all hazards to retain the present old mission storage ice room, as poor as it is, and so we cannot spare more ground than the 55 feet to West of hospital.

There will be four (4) graduate nurses here after this year. The missionary's wife is a nurse, and the governmental doctor's wife is likewise thoroughly trained, and the two nurses employed by the Gov't for the hospital are likewise competently trained. How I envy the new doctor the number of helpers, helpers on occasion and in emergency! I have ever been handicapped. A New York surgeon when operating for even simple appendicitis has at his hand some six to eight nurses, at least as many have had a hand in either preparations or in attendance actually. When Misses Dakin and Mueller as well as Mrs. Greist were here, then I too got along reasonably well and did quite a bit of major surgery, but as situated at present it is well nigh impossible.

I am in midst of packing, of painting outer halls of manse
and we are very busy.

Sincerely,

Henry W. Greist

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INDIAN FIELD SERVICE

Juneau, Alaska
July 11, 1936.

Dr. J. M. Somerndike,
156 Fifth Avenue, New York,
New York.

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Upon the receipt of your letter written on the 25th of June we wired Dr. Van Ackeren, then at Nome, the substance of subjects presented. Yesterday Dr. Van Ackeren, accompanied by Dr. Townsend, Director of Health from Washington, D. C., David Thomas from the Washington Office, and Claude M. Hirst, Director of Education for Alaska, visited Barrow by plane.

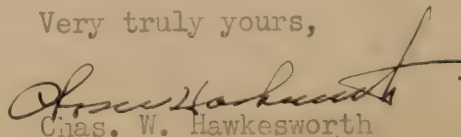
While there Dr. Van Ackeren sent us the following wire:

"Reurrad July eighth Dr. Greist recommends coal shed be turned over with hospital due to proximity to hospital and distance from church and manse stop he further recommends that dividing line north and south between church and government property be placed fifty five feet to west of hospital stop kindly forward this information to Dr. Somerndike and Washington Office."

We are especially pleased to forward you this wire and have every reason to believe that as a result of the personal visit of our Officials the work in the community of Barrow will go forward with real satisfaction to the Presbyterian Board of Missions, the native people, and ourselves.

From personal knowledge of Mr. and Mrs. Klere-koper, who have been stationed at Skagway, we have every reason to believe upon their arrival at Barrow they will also appreciate the advantages of joining in the united effort for the mutual benefit of all concerned. I am particularly interested in the work at Barrow as it was my first Alaska home.

Very truly yours,



Chas. W. Hawkesworth

Assistant to Director.

CC to Commissioner

Barrow, Alaska, July 13, 1936.

Dr. J. M. Somerndike, Sec'y,
156 Fifth Ave., New York.

Dear Doctor Somerndike:

not enclosed
In copy of my financial report covering period Jan. 1, 1936 to June 30, 1936, herewith, I have stated that there are "no known outstanding bills."

But I was in error in that we owed Mrs. Greist \$23.15, and the writer a balance on acct. Money owing Mrs. Greist was account drygoods, notions etc., she had bought and paid for with her own personal funds, brot to Barrow for her own use, but had not needed, and so sold to wage earners in Barrow Hospital which was reported to my office and charged to buyers and credited to Mrs. Greist. The draft ^{on Treasurer's office} I am giving Mrs. Greist to cover in sum of \$23.15 will thus be explained.

The writer had a balance of some \$40.96 on our local books, a running acct. This I have balanced by charging myself with meals ^{\$25.46} ~~\$2.46~~, food stuffs \$15.50, which closes the acct, and justly.

Yours very truly,

Henry W. Greist
Henry W. Greist, M.D.,
Sup't and Miss'y in Chg.

*U.B. -
Have fully explained
matter to Mr. Novack*

Barter Is. Alaska

Aug 2, 1926.

My Dear Mr H.W. Greist -
and Mrs Greist,

I was very
glad to receive your letter when
Pademon got here and as I will
answer it by Mr Gordon.

Lucie and I were very thankful
for ^{two bags} (clothing, food stuffs, S.S. supplies, etc.)
that Mrs Greist sent
up to me. I have no other writing
paper just that what I write on
and no pencil or ink. I have
to get pencil from them to write
with. My family are all well
I just came home from the
herd. We butchered the deer
for our clothing. I will go down
again to count our deer at
Collinson Pt. We had nothing ^(had)
all this spring. Not enough

To eat once an while.

Not many fish.

When Pederson got here. I
bought little grub from him
with the meat.

It is hard time here and
I have big family to feed on
and I very much hope to get
my salary to help to feed
my family. I did not
travel much this winter to
preach because I have to
hunt for my children.

I can't get out of my debts
from station. If the mission
pay^{me} little salary that will
be great help for my family
I like my preaching and
some of the young people

had been converted from
their sins. But doctors!

I have plenty enemies; because
I preach Christ as the Saviour.
Some people are on the dark
side, they don't like to be in the
light, because their deeds are
evil. I rather travel in
summer to the people, preaching
to them, but I don't have enough
gasoline to travel with.

One young man Joe Gray died
on starvation and some others
(Spirits) ... to, but some
others save them.

I don't receive any other letters
from my friends and I don't

know why they did not write.
I am in hurry to write to
you, I must close with my
love to you and your wife.
I hope you help me quick
for my salary.

I am in need now, you
don't know Doctor!

Your friend

Andrew Abbott

Point Barrow, Alaska, Aug. 4, 1936

J. M. Somerudine, D.D., Dean
156 Fifth Ave., New York.

Dear Doctor Somerudine:

The re silver place in hospital

When Barrow Hospital was opened in 1921, we had a most extravagant supply of expensive silver - 30 each of Holmes & Edwards knives, forks, big spoons, soup spoons, ^{and} teaspoons. All this was intended for the use of the white staff. An additional supply was sent, all cheaper in quality, for the Servants' table, and we must admit. The trays in wards - a generous abundance, as you will admit. ^{the knives & forks intact.}

When we returned in 1929, Mrs. Geist discovered only 4 table spoons left, 10 teaspoons, ^{by possible unknown,} and 12 soup spoons. The remainder had been either stolen, or "borrowed" by some missionary or money of our most valuable surgical instruments had disappeared. - As Miss Florence C. Dixon will advise. (But the knives and forks were yet here - 30 each, the original number. Spoons only having disappeared.)

The mouse had no silver. True, in mission boxes, occasionally some church would send cheap articles in this line. We had our own silver - mostly sterling ^{and} most of the mission box articles ^{were} used in cooking only. Of course we are taking home our own silver ^{and that only}. The mouse is fairly well supplied, at least for a small family. However - Mrs. Geist has transferred to the mouse from the hospital 10 each, knives and forks, leaving in hospital all spoons, and 10 new (never used) knives and 10 new forks, and as money which have been used. So hospital is well supplied with silver knives and forks, but short on spoons. No none of latter have ever been carried for the hospital by us.

This, for your information.

Tracy

Henry N. Geist

Barrow, Alaska, Aug 6, 1936.

D. J. M. Fournuside Esq
106 Fifth Ave., New York.

Dear Doctor Fournuside:

In re Surgical Instruments.

As said elsewhere, on our return to Barrow in 1929, I discovered that very many of our most valuable surgical instruments were missing. I had but my own - such instruments as I believed I would need, hence during the years have used my own exclusively.

Miss ~~Sabin~~ ~~W~~ reported to the Board on her return in 1926 (for one year only) said lost, but nothing could be done about it apparently. On my return, I discovered in a small open box, back under the eaves in a garret, exposed to frost, damp, water, dust, etc - some 200 worth of instruments, but they were practically ruined, - placed there after my departure, and by parties unknown, evidently account pure, diabolical, malice - malice - malice. But they were but a portion of the missing instruments.

I fully believe ~~S. Newhall~~ was the guilty man since he is known to have destroyed so much of our other property, but he is dead.

When the Government assumes charge, the incoming doctor will be solely responsible unless he is given a full armamentarium at once - my own, as taken home, or more of course.

Truly yours,

S. Henry W. Greist

W.H.

my typewriters are packed for shipment

Barrow, Alaska,
Aug 8, 1926.

Dear Doctor Fourness:

On the very eve of the expected arrival of the ships, when we are rushed with final preparations for departure, two typhoid cases are bro't in. Mrs. Priest cannot give them the immediate care. Helen Swales left our employ June 30. Hence, I have re-employed Helen until such time as the Government nurse arrives which probably will be within the week.

This, for your information.

Truly yours,

Henry M. Priest

Later (Aug 24)

Helen accepted wage for supplies
to cover 4 days service @ \$1.00
Total \$4.00

She was relieved on the arrival of
a Government nurse

A. P. G.

Barrow Alaska Aug 10 1936

Barrow Alaska Mission Dr

To Cape Smythe Whaling and Trading Co

To lighterage of freight from Sehr C.S Holmes to beach.

Dr Griest 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons

Mission 13 $\frac{1}{4}$

Coal 40 "

30 drums Gas and oil 12 $\frac{2}{3}$ "

*Rec Payment -
Chas S. Brown*

57 $\frac{1}{6}$ tons

\$ 3.00 1 201.50

*Paid by draft on New York office
this August 11, 1936*

Point Barrow Alaska,
August 11, 1936.

S. J. M. Somervell, Inc.
156 Fifth Ave., New York.

paid by Office
June 4/36

Dear Doctor Somervell:

I am making sight draft on the Treasurer in favor of Messrs Cape Smyth Whaling and Trading Co., Inc., in sum of \$201⁵⁰/₁₀₀ to cover lightering of our mission pit received by Capt. Geo. Backlund, Jr., 67¹/₂ tons @ \$3⁰⁰ per ton. As usual when done by this firm, the work is very satisfactory.

I have taken the contract to longshore pit for the U. S. Army Sig. Corps by trader, moving some 47 tons for beach to the wireless station @ \$1²⁵/₁₀₀ ton, the Signal Corps donating us 20 gal. gasoline for trader, and furnishing us at their expense 2 men to assist, ~~the~~ supplying two men @ \$5⁰⁰ the hr. The regular wage scale for this heavy work. We had done this labor for the Army for one or two yrs @ \$1⁰⁰/₁₀₀ the ton, but I asked \$1²⁵/₁₀₀ this year, which was readily accepted. Previously the Army furnished me labor. This to keep us out of our longshore expense. Will report later.

Thine, for your information.

We hope to have our own coal on mission grounds ere the arrival of the Rev. Mr. Kleckner. All other pit is now housed.

Truly yours, Henry W. Grant

Point Barrow, Alaska, Aug. 17, 1936.

Dr. J. M. Somerndike, Sec'y,
156 Fifth Ave., New York City.

Dear Doctor Somerndike:

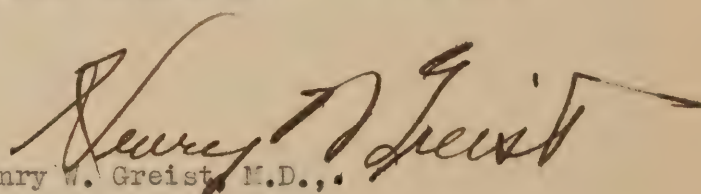
In re longshoring

I accepted contract to move the U. S. Army Sig. Corps freight from beach to wireless station, some four or five city blocks (long ones) in distance, at \$1.25 the ton, the Army to donate towards our gasoline consumption 20 gallons of gas. The Army also donated services of two men the while. In all I moved for the service just 45.76 tons, totaling \$57.20 in money, which I have billed to the Army.

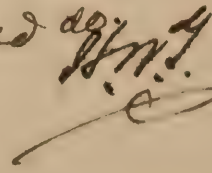
In longshoring our own freight plus that of the Army I hired three men a portion of time, using the janitor likewise some of the time, paying latter an additional wage sufficient to ~~make~~ total that paid to the other men, 50¢ the hr. My total wage as paid for this entire work was \$64.00, meaning the longshoring of our own freight from beach to ~~housing~~ ^{storage} on mission premises, plus that of the Army. The Army charge was as said \$57.20. Thus, as you will see, the moving of our own freight cost us gross a sum of but \$6.80. We probably used 15 gallons of gas in addition to that supplied gratis by the Army.

I actually believe this to have been a good business move. A "bouquet" is in order.

Yours truly,


Henry W. Greist, M.D.,
Sup't.

A borrowed typewriter in lieu of my own already gone on Capt Backland's boat, is strange to me and hence my writing is poor.

I succeeded in storing about 10 tons coal in the church coal shed - piled remainder in rear of house as I will in time show by a photo now taken of the pile. This is the best I could do.


Penn Harbor, Alaska, Aug 24, 1936.

D. J. M. Samerudick, Secy
New York

Dear Sirs:

Please note attached letter from Andrew Akool-
Chook, licentiate at Kotzeb Sound.

Andrew Akoolchook deserves better at the
hands of the Board. We have almost
wholly ignored him. Presbytery took him under
care for some five years or more; he devoted all
of two years to study locally under my
constant care, sacrificing much in mean while,
neglecting his trapping, hunting, etc., to the end he
might in some measure prepare for the work
to which he felt called of God, a call the Church
recognized. And now for three or more
years he has faithfully served us on that for
Eastern Coast, modestly, but well and
sincerely, blowing not his own horn, reserving
title or no recognition, no salary whatever,
no support beyond a mission box parcel.

I very earnestly recommend that
he be placed on the payroll at not less
than \$300⁰⁰ per annum. Not sum within the
arctic is ridiculously small, but it is better than
a mere "heart year" reaction. Andrew is not
only capable - the most capable native I have ever
known, and I have met all the licentiates in
Alaska Presby. know them all, spiritually minded, which
some of the fellows down Junction way are not
and hard working as well. He is about 40 yrs.

I trust you will act with good feeling -
truly yours
Henry J. Street

See enclosed
for your file
10/1/36

Point Barrow, Alaska, Aug. 31, 1936

Mr. J. M. Sowerdick, Secy
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York

Dr. Sowerdick:

I have even date received a partial
payment on the O. D. Morris note of \$73.⁰⁰,
this note covering hospitalization and professional
fess in Barrow Hospital. The original (given 9/28/35)
principal was \$300.⁰⁰. There have been payments
made as follows:

March 25	1935	_____	\$42.75
Sept 4	1935	_____	50.
Aug 31.	1936	_____	73.
			<hr/> \$165.75

Mr. Morris believes he will pay balance and the
accrued interest @ 6% next summer.

As with all other funds, I am reporting this to
Mr. Chas. N. Monacott, Treasurer, making
remittance today.

This, for your information.

Now, with all other papers, is left for
care of Rev. Fred. Scherck.

Truly yours

Henry R. Geist, M.D.
Asst. & Acting in Charge

P.S. — the party I forced to settle by
this, the party I forced to settle by
threatened suit. He is today a
man in the hands of this mission & mission.

There is an under-
current of sentiment
on part of all
Government em-
ployees seen so far,
(being Douglas only)
and he has nothing
to do with the
medical drift to
which as to get ex-
tremely off the
premises. I know
not what attitude
Hawkes with will
assume, but know
him personally as I
have for many
years, & can
consistently
hope for few
gains from him
But in view of
the fact that
first at hand
will do my
utmost -
H.M.
Ship arrives
early 5th inst.

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current of sentiment
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H.M.
Ship arrives
early 5th inst.

Paint Borrow, Alaska, 9/3/1936

John M. Hammond & Co
56 Fifth Ave, New York -

Dear Doctor Hammond:

As of Sep 1st I turned over to the office of Ind.
an offer the following property:

10 Carcasses good reindeer meat	\$
400# Brouwer's, & Co's fine, costing us 10¢	40.
600#, approximately, dressed meat	xx
	\$ 40.00

400# Pillsbury's best flour
150# Fischer's Blend "
300# whole wheat "
600# Eggs groundies
100# Corn meal
100# Soup beans - small white
100# Split peas
275# Leslie's Table salt.

Copy to Klerkoper

Coal - approximately 15 tons, in big ~~box~~ ~~box~~ Coal shed.
This coal will be measured in time, but we are not far
off as to above figure. Can retain balance left on
arrival Government supplies, but incoming missionary
may have to move it to the pile of coal in open, to
that coal we received this summer. It is not known if
Rev. Mr. Klerkoper can drive a tractor or not. There is no
native on this coast who can run tractor, saving our late
and he is now employed by the Government and would
not be available. Mr. Klerkoper can learn, perhaps, - I had
to make a laboring man of myself, and Klerkoper may
perhaps be willing to do as much.

W. H. Priest, M.D.

Oct.
5th
1936

Rev. Henry W. Greist, M.D.,
Monticello, Indiana

Dear Doctor Greist:

Replying to your letter regarding the salary to be paid Andrew Akootchook, I wish to say that I had already decided to pay him at the rate of \$25 a month. Can you advise me whether we should send his salary checks to Barter Island, or is there some other better arrangement for the payment of his salary? I shall be glad to be advised if you have any suggestions.

I appreciate the arrangements you made to handle the longshoring of the freight for the Signal Corps, which netted the Board a sum of money which is greatly appreciated by us. I presume you remitted this to Mr. Wonacott at the same time you made remittance of Mr. Morris' payment. I appreciate your consideration of the Board's interests in this matter.

I heartily approve the arrangements you made with the government representatives regarding the coal sheds. I earnestly hope that satisfactory provision was made for a place to store Mr. Klerekoper's coal for the use of the manse and church.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH